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MEMOIR OF

BENJAMIN LORD BLOOMFIELD

G.C.B., G.C.H.

CARL XIV JOHAN.

MEMOIR OF

BENJAMIN LORD BLOOMFIELD

G.C.B., G.C.H.

EDITED BY

GEORGIANA LADY BLOOMFIELD.

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MEMOIR OF

BENJAMIN LORD BLOOMFIELD

G.C.B., G.C.H.

CHAPTER X.

Visit to Russia—Äbo—Helsingfors—Arrival at St. Petersburg—Casan Church—Cronstadt—The Tauride Palace Museum—Relics of Peter the Great—The Church of St. Alexander Nevsky—The Islands—Academy of Fine Arts—Tsarskoeselo—The Admiralty—Corps des Cadets—Corps des Mines—Catherinenhof—Foundling Hospital—Imperial Stables—Arsenal.

Wednesday, June 29th, 1825.—Landed at Abo (in Finland) and had a run down the town before breakfast. Visited the Commandant, and was much struck with the very smart appearance of the soldiers. At half-past one we (Lieut. Bloomfield, R.A., accompanied Lord Bloomfield on his trip

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to Russia) proceeded on our journey. We found a M. Bain on board who had been recommended to me, so we travelled together. There was no difficulty or a moment's delay at the post-houses; though we had not sent on, five horses were out in a moment. There is a corps of postilions under the postal authority, and having one of them as coachman we were sure of quick obedience. He was dressed in green with a schakot *à la militaire*, a badge on his arm, sword, etc., etc. The scenery of Finland is very like Sweden but less picturesque, more bare rocks, less water and much fewer country seats. We dined at Salo, six Swedish miles from Abo, and determined to travel on all night to Helsingfors. At four o'clock p.m. Thursday we found orders had been given to provide my quarters, which were very comfortable. I delivered my letters, and inspected this infant town. The Emperor, since his possession of this province and the capture of the fortress in 1808, has made it the Capital of Finland, and the buildings are very fine, upon the scale the Emperor Alexander does everything. At present they appear preposterous. He has greatly augmented the fortifications, and Helsingfors is called the

Gibraltar of the North. I, however, see no resemblance. The Town Mayor was in waiting the moment I arrived, and arrangements were made for my proceeding to the Fort at eight the following morning.

Friday, July 1st.—I rose at six, and prepared for my excursion. Breakfasted at a quarter past seven, a beautiful morning, and at eight I went to the boat attended by the Commandant and Staff. The latter accompanied me in the Governor's barge to the fortress, which is built upon five islands connected by bridges as strong as possible, and not of an extent beyond the means of defence with 10,000 men. There is a sixth island also very strong, but separated by a wider passage of the sea. The deep and only passage for ships of war, is not close, 100 yards across, and is defended by 250 pieces of ordnance bearing directly upon it. The other passage is only for gunboats, and the island, which is separated from the others, is fortified against that species of attack. Each island has its own Commandant, who were all in waiting at the landing-place with the Governor's Staff (he was an old wounded officer, and, walking with difficulty, excused himself for not

attending me). Nothing could exceed the politeness of every one. After having inspected the works and gone everywhere, I waited upon the Governor and thanked him, as I did all the officers—at least one hundred—who formed my escort. After taking leave of the Governor I returned with the Commandant's Staff and made my visits of thanks to their chief. I invited the officers, who embarked with me, to dinner at eleven o'clock, so we sat down a large party, and were all devouring like ogres when the old Governor was announced, who, poor old man! could not suffer me to depart without all possible respect. He sat down and partook of our little repast, and as usual the thing was soon over, and we started at noon. We travelled on all night, had some coffee in the afternoon, and a fat old landlady entertained us hospitably and regretted our not putting up at her house for the night. We had excellent bread and butter and cream, but the accommodation our fat laughing friend offered us was not tempting, so we proceeded on our journey to Wyborg, where we found good beds, the provisions we brought from Stockholm having lasted the whole journey. We breakfasted at 3.30 a.m., and set off at four

for St. Petersburg, where we arrived Sunday, the 3rd of July, at eight p.m.

We crossed the old Russian boundary about twenty-eight English miles from St. Petersburg, where all is Russian; up to the post but one before the capital all is Finnish, which one may consider synonymous with Swedish. The transfer of Finland is still felt by its inhabitants, who spoke aloud, even to us foreigners passing through the country. The province seems to improve wonderfully as one approaches the capital, and there was more movement and activity than is observable in Sweden. The Russian costume and character are very striking. Peasants in broad-brimmed hats with low, wide-topped crowns and enormous beards presenting themselves in the course of two miles were very striking. They wore a loose dress kept tight by a sash of red or blue, boots with trowsers inside them. The peasants generally use coarse linen for this outside garment. The women, mostly without shoes, exhibiting a black foot popping out from white linen drawers, always a flounce of red, and an apron of many colours. A close white linen covering for the head. I don't think in all my travels I ever beheld so ugly a race

of women. The men were stout and very active, civil as possible, and since we reached Russia we have found every possible *agrément*. The peasants drive, so that when you come to the Russian boundary one's coachman has nothing more to do.

We lodged at the Hôtel de Londres opposite the great Palace and the Admiralty, a magnificent façade. I cannot find terms to convey the extraordinary splendour which is apparent everywhere; indeed, it seems a city of palaces. The first time we crossed the Neva was opposite the Summer Gardens, and we saw multitudes of foot passengers, whilst carriages were waiting outside a fine bronze and gilt railing. We alighted at our hotel, where my brother Minister, Mr. Disbrowe, had ordered a very comfortable apartment for us. The staircase was horridly dirty, and there were a variety of bad smells, which I am told assail one on entering the finest houses. As soon as we had brushed off the dust, John Bloomfield and I walked out to survey this extraordinary city, the Imperial Palace and the Admiralty. The street is an immense width, and on one side runs the Neva rapidly, bounded by mag-

nificent quays of granite. There were very good trottoirs and crossings, and the pavement was kept in beautiful order. In our little promenade we fell in with the depôt of couriers and their little carriages, ready to start at any moment in any direction. There were at least twelve waiting, the men asleep on the carriages. The poor horses showed great patience, and I find this custom prevails even in the middle of winter.

July 4th.—Had a very comfortable night, though somewhat noisy. Rain had fallen heavily. Breakfasted on bread-and-butter and eggs, seltzer water and milk. We dare not drink the Neva water, as its effects are deleterious to all new comers. The bread-and-butter excellent. At eleven we started to pay visits in a carriage and four, a nice clean chariot, postilions *à la cosaque* riding the off horse, the coachman holding the reins in each hand. We were driven very fast and well. The most agreeable person I have seen is the Comte de la Ferronaye, the French Ambassador. He gave me more insight into this country and capital in half-an-hour than I had yet had. The buildings do not bear examining. They are upon a grand scale, and a good deal of architectural

design, columns, etc., etc., but the face of the buildings is in plaster, which being cracked off in many places gives an air of decay and flimsiness that does not accord with their appearance at a distance. The inundation, too, having loosened the outside covering, and the police having ordered it to be stripped off to about the height of five feet, destroys the admiration which this town excited at first sight. This order was given in order to ensure the foundation of the houses drying with greater certainty. I called upon an old general, and in talking of the splendour of the town, he seemed greatly to regret the Emperor's accuracy of sight, for that next year, his house, a large one, is to be pulled down by Imperial orders, and to be built about six feet to one side. I walked for an hour along a street planted with young trees like a boulevard, and strolling onwards, came to a most preposterous but, in detail, fine church ; immense columns supporting nothing, and a narrow dome surrounding the centre ; the columns in front form a semicircle, and the church occupies the centre towards the rear. We entered and found a fine building, though not very spacious, crowded with columns of a fine red granite, the

Corinthian capitals very well executed. The Greek religion does not allow statues, but *en revanche*, plenty of images called Icons, the face and hands painted, which the devotees kiss in their devotions. The Emperor attends service in this church upon some occasions, when a part of the ceremony consists of three bows for His Imperial Majesty, two for God, and one for the Corps Diplomatique. Several persons came in whilst we were in the church, lit small tapers, and kissed the Icons. We saw an old person praying devoutly, who, we were informed, had been one of the nuns freed by the Emperor Paul from her vows. She was dressed in a kind of black shroud. General Kutusoff was buried in this church, and it is hung with flags and eagles taken from the French. Hanging on the walls are the keys of the various towns taken by the Russians. This church was built by the Emperor Paul, who became so impatient with the architect's delay in furnishing his plans, that he ordered one to be presented in twenty-four hours; this was accordingly done, and the work commenced in forty-eight hours. The quickness with which buildings are got up is astonishing—two or three years are sufficient for

great palaces. In the street, which is now planted at the sides, the plantation was originally in the centre, when one morning H.I.M., fancying they would have a better effect at the sides, ordered them all to be transplanted; but his authority could not make them grow, and many failed. This work was completed in forty-eight hours. I was the most struck by the Marble Palace, built of granite with marble columns and pilasters, which convey the idea of solidity, though it is gloomy from the dark colour of the granite. We dined with Mr. Disbrowe at five o'clock, and in the evening paid visits. We were received at the Austrian Ambassador's and at Princess Wolkonsky's. Her husband was sent as Ambassador Extraordinary to compliment Charles X. upon his coronation. The Imperial Family were all in the country. Princess Wolkonsky and her daughters were very agreeable, and we remained till ten o'clock, and then walked home, accompanied by Mr. Disbrowe. Near the Admiralty we found some immense granite columns for the new church. They were seven and a half feet in diameter, and eighty feet long. Without seeing these specimens I could not have believed their size, and almost everything

is accomplished by manual force, scarcely any mechanical power is to be seen here.

July 6th.—Started at 8.30 for Cronstadt in a steamboat. The wind blew fresh, and we arrived in two hours and twenty minutes, a distance of twenty-three miles. There were three Polish Jews on board, who fiddled or played a sort of dulcimer and drum all the way, most extraordinary fellows with long dirty beards. Sir David Bailey, the consul, attended me, by which means I saw everything remarkably well. This naval arsenal was the work of Peter the Great, is very strong, and the moles for the men-of-war and merchantmen most commodious and protected by a superb granite wall of immense thickness, which is mounted with a vast number of guns. The passage, which is narrow, is also defended by several strong forts built upon piles. All this immense strength was not, however, sufficient to resist the inundation, which not only breached this protection, but carried thirteen ships of war completely out of the Basin upon the land, one of them a three-decker, two seventy-fours, and ten frigates. I never saw such a scene of desolation as the place still exhibits, and nine of the ships were still upon their beam-ends.

We were very hospitably received by the Vice-Consul, and had an excellent dinner, returning at five by the same conveyance. The canal and the docks are those projected and finished by Peter the Great, and are in high preservation. One passes Peterhof and some country places, but they were too distant to distinguish them in detail. I must not forget to mention that a large Lubeck ship was carried by the inundation over the rampart and parapet into the Basin, and only touched the heel of her keel. An English vessel was left high and dry on the great wall. I do not think your ladyship or the renowned Thomas Ryder Pepper ever made a more flying leap than the Voyageur de Lubeck! We also visited the cooking house, where are assembled people of every nation that hold relation by sea with Russia. The vessels in the Basin are so closely packed that fires are forbidden, therefore the cooking service is carried on on shore. We were too late to witness the great crash of marrow-bones, which vexed me, as I expected to be much amused: but I never saw a dirtier place.

July 7th.—We sallied forth to the Palace, and had no difficulty in getting admission. We mounted the great staircase, which is very fine, and were

conducted through the two ante-rooms to the great ball-room, of immense dimensions, in white and gold, with white chairs in common painted wood, and nothing of grandeur in the furniture, but quite the contrary. One then passes into the Salle de St. George, a fine room. The throne is not very splendid and the chair is small; the platform on which it rests is large and has a good effect. We were then conducted by livery servants in succession (dirty and nearly all drunk or the worse for liquor), through the immense galleries of pictures; some very fine, by all the great masters. I almost shed a tear to see the magnificent collection from Houghton decorating those walls. They are very rich in Rembrandts and in the Flemish School generally. Whilst I was gazing around me I was accosted by an Englishman, who proved to be Mr. Dawes, the English painter employed by the Emperor Alexander to paint all his generals. He was very civil indeed, and by his means I saw more of the "Palais d'Hiver" than I should otherwise have seen. There is one gallery copied from one at Rome, a very successful copy and admirably preserved, whereas that at Rome, being exposed, is almost defaced. It seems

sacrilege to permit Raphael's works to be almost lost. Two storeys high there is a garden with large trees, elm and birch growing luxuriantly. The theatre was covered over for the exercise of troops in winter, so that when the Imperial family want a play the decorations are all removed to a large apartment, put up in the night, and taken down when the representation is over. A thousand men—soldiers—are employed for these theatricals. We saw the apartments inhabited at present by the Duke and Duchess of Saxe-Weimar. I never saw anything more splendid, great space and great comfort also. That of the Prince of Orange was less magnificent, still very fine and spacious. The Chinese apartment and entresol were very curious. The young Princes when children used to play there. The chapel was very handsome; in truth, all is fine. We saw the figure of the little old Dutch lady in whose house Peter the Great resided in Holland, and a model of the house; all that refers to that extraordinary man is venerated and preserved with awe and reverence. We saw a fine service of malachite and some large vases of Siberian marble, a state column, and there was a vast collection of minerals and medals.

The Malmaison collection was apart, and the choicest of all was Canova's sweet statue of Cupid and Psyche, which is the only addition this Emperor (Alexander) has made to the fine arts. I was struck by several beautiful Gerard Dows. Mr. Dawes' collection of portraits will be remarkable. He had several pictures of poor Princess Charlotte. We were told that this Palace contains 6000 people. We next visited the Palais de Marbre, which is as dull within as without. It is appropriated to the Grand Duke Constantine, but as he is generally absent it is much neglected. We next proceeded to the Tauride Palace,* and I never was more struck with any entrance. It is Oriental, and resembles in large our little pavilion at Brighton. One enters a spacious hall, then a beautiful round tennis hall of immense dimensions, lighted from above. Then a room as large as the riding-house at Brighton, perhaps larger, and an extensive garden, under cover, connecting with the large room. I never beheld such a fairy scene, and these apartments had been prepared for a grand fête, which did not take place, owing to the Emperor's illness.

* The Tauride was built by Potemkin for the Empress Catherine, who often resided there.—*Note by the Editor.*

The arrangement for lighting was in very good taste, and would have made a wonderful effect. The theatre was boarded over and tables placed for the suppers. The garden was beautified with fine trees and a piece of artificial water with boats ; the walks admirably kept. The living rooms were in two wings, and the old Empress inhabits this Palace in the autumn. Her bed-room was very large, but the walls were simply coloured upon plastering with coloured borders, very simple, but clean and livable. I was charmed with the Palace ; indeed, nothing could exceed the effect on first entering. The Bourse, or Exchange, is a fine building, and very commodious for the dispatch of business. There is a colossal statue of the Emperor Alexander at one end. After seeing this busy scene we went to the Museum, which is not remarkable, but contains a figure in wax of Peter the Great as large as life, dressed in his wedding suit. In a closet to the right is the military dress he wore ; in that on the left his working suits of white leather, stiff leather gaiters, and ditto breeches with thirteen buttons at the knees. In a small case is the hat he wore at the Battle of Pultowa shot through, a little cocked hat equal leaves and corners, a pair of

shoes made by himself and much worn. His horse caparisoned is also there, and a faithful large dog who accompanied him at several battles. These animals are both admirably stuffed. The horse was a creamy bay colour, with some small white spots on his off quarters. The Emperor was remarkably fond of dogs, and there lay several of his favourites in the great case. This Museum also contains two turning machines which were used by Peter the Great. I sat upon the stool this wonderful man used when thus amusing himself. The Museum contains some fossils and other curiosities, but on the whole it is poor. After dinner, whilst we were looking at a mare belonging to Mr. Lewis, Lord Castlereagh and Sir Alexander Mallet, one of the attachés, were playing gymnastic tricks, when the former gave himself a blow on the head upon the pavement. He was not materially hurt, and fortunately Sir James Wylie (the Emperor's physician) was present, and took him home and bled him, and put him to bed.

July 8th.—We called by appointment on Mr. Dawes and Sir James Wylie, and went to see the new Palais Michel, which is very fine inside and out, and suitable for a Prince of a great Empire,

but the scaffolding had not been removed. It has been built by contract, and the architect said it would cost about 4,600,000 roubles, probably less than the alterations at Buckingham House. Sir James took us to the hospitals and the Corps of Cadets, admirable establishments, particularly the latter. We lunched with the physician, and then went to see the little hut in which Peter lived whilst he was building the fortress, which consisted of three small rooms, about seven feet high, and built in the Dutch style. It is preserved with indescribable veneration, and covered over by another house like a precious jewel in its case! We then went to the fortress, and ascended the towers to have a view of the town, a splendid panorama. The fortress in itself is nothing remarkable; it is faced with granite, and the church contains the mortal remains of Peter the Great, Catherine, Paul, the Empress Elizabeth, Peter II. and III.; many Turkish flags taken in the wars, and some hung up by Catherine herself. We dined at M. de la Ferronaye's, where we had a magnificent entertainment, and I met Count Nesselrode, the First Minister, who told me the Emperor was very desirous to see me, with other civil things. I took my leave of this most agreeable man with regret.

July 9th.—We went to see the Church and Convent of St. Alexander Newsky, which terminates the magnificent street called the Newsky Perspect. The service was very imposing, and the singing very fine indeed. Many poor people prostrated themselves and kissed the ground for some minutes. This church is very handsome. The great Suwarrow is buried there under a simple stone. The tomb of the saints is of massive silver. Peter the Great's picture is in the church, and also a representation of the marriage of the Emperor Alexander in the presence of Catherine, Paul and his Empress, attended by the bishops and Court. The church is fine, and an establishment within itself: the bishops' palace and the priests' houses are in the court. From thence we went to the Palace, and were conducted through the hospitals of the Guards, which seemed admirably organised. I then wished to see the Foundling Hospital, but could not gain admittance, so we finished our hospital researches at an establishment of the Empress mother's, where 270 poor people, men and women, are maintained at her expense, and this too was in the highest order. I then visited the Library, which is very rich in autographs, and they were obtained in a very

extraordinary manner, having been collected at Paris during the French Revolution by a member of the Russian Embassy, who for a few francs collected a cartload of letters, some of Henry VIII., Elizabeth, Henry IV. of France, Mary, and all the crowned heads of Europe, and the historical characters of the day. I could have spent many hours looking them over, but time failed, and we went to see a wonderful model of a tenth part of St. Petersburg upon a very large scale, and accurate to a broken brick. We dined at the Swedish Minister's. The library was brought from Warsaw, seized by Suwarrow and his Cossacks, who, whenever they found books too large to fit in the packing-cases, chipped them down with a hatchet, and thus deprived the Establishment of many valuable works. I saw some books which had been thus roughly handled.

July 10*th.*—We went to church at eleven, and nothing could be more orderly than the service, which was very well performed. The church has been purchased and is maintained by the English factory, and does them great honor. It was quite a comfort to me to attend such a service, as it had been so long since I had been inside a Church of England. I dined with the Disbrowes, and was

presented to Madame, a very nice young person, who, having lived much abroad, is particularly well fitted for foreign life. After dinner we went down to Count Nesselrode's country house, and passing a branch of the Neva, reached the islands, on one of which stands a favourite country palace of the Emperor's, Jelaguine. The banks of the Neva, which is twice as wide as the Thames at Twickenham, are covered with beautiful houses and fine trees. We went on to another island, upon which are the pavilions and gardens of the Countess Stroganoff, where in fine weather the company walk, which makes the scene very gay—a thousand little droschkys and hundreds of carriages-and-four were waiting at the garden gates, and strike a foreigner very much. When passing the bridge there is a very long reach of the river up and down, which for tame beauty could not be exceeded. It was covered with boats, which tended to embellish the scene greatly.

July 11th.—Before breakfast I went to see the troops march off to their different guards. It is a parade of extraordinary minutiæ, as is indeed the whole service; but the uniformity of dress and the cleanliness are quite unique: when you have seen

one man you have seen the whole army. I walked to look at the celebrated statue of Peter the Great, with which I was not so much struck. The statue I do not like, and the block of granite on which it rests is more remarkable for its size and its having been transported across a soft bog, than anything else. To my mind not having left the block in its rough state was a mistake. The face, which resembles the pictures of Peter the Great, was modelled by Collett. There is also a statue of Suwarrow, which is full of animation. I was disappointed with the Roman Catholic Chapel, which is much spoken of. The Académie des Beaux Arts is to my mind the finest building in St. Petersburg. Its church is simple but imposing. One enters by two grand staircases, and the apartments are fine and spacious. There were 200 students in this establishment. All the artists are permitted to copy the pictures, but they are the merest trash I ever saw collected, and many of the casts are mutilated. Artists are also permitted to copy the pictures in the Palace and Hermitage, and I saw several at work there, among them a lady.

Sir James Wylie accompanied me to the country house of the Grand Chamberlain, Mons. Losemsky,

where I was most hospitably welcomed. His house is situated sixteen versts from the Capital (a verst is three-quarters of a mile), on the banks of the Gulf, and we passed a succession of country houses, very beautiful to look at, and only separated by what we should call a good pleasure ground; the grounds in the highest state of care and order, the walks well laid out, and in this country each house has a flagstaff, and where the flag flies all visitors are welcome. We arrived at M. Losemsky's an hour before dinner, and guests arrived continually after us. We sat down, thirty persons, in a large conservatory. The day was divine, and the view from the house very fine indeed, with views of St. Petersburg and Cronstadt, and all the surrounding country. I sat on my host's right hand, and was so stuffed! The cuisine, a mixture of Russian and French, with some excellent fruit and a great variety of wines. The establishments, splendid *sans prétension*. After coffee we took our leave, and proceeded to the Camp, about thirteen versts, where I was presented to some of the generals, amongst others to my old acquaintance, General Benkendorff, brother of Madame de Lieven. He seemed very glad to see me, and pressed me to bivouac with him. I saw

some of the troops in marching order, the men and horses magnificent. I never saw such large horses showing so much blood. There were about 40,000 men under canvas. I went into the Grand Duke Nicholas' tent (afterwards Emperor), which was as simple as possible: three or four chairs, a couple of tables, and a common camp bed without curtains. After a glance at the troops in their lines we pursued our journey to Tsarskoe Selo, where on arriving we met the Grand Duke Nicholas, but he did not stop. The entrance to the pleasure grounds of this palace is particularly striking, and laid out like a lady's flower garden. We reached one of the wings of the Palace, and were conducted through a colonnade to Sir James Wylie's apartment; one immediately opposite was provided for me, where I reposed most comfortably, hearing only the sweet warbling of birds. The windows looked into the Empress's private garden. Two gentlemen attended me round the grounds before breakfast, which as a work of art, are wonderful, and laid out with great ingenuity, the water being admirably distributed. A brig yacht was anchored on one of the pieces of water, which gives an idea of its depth and expanse. The walks were as smooth as a billiard-

table, and the grass very well kept. I was quite surprised at the verdure which borders the waters, and has a most dressy effect. There was a great deal of plantation, but I did not see an oak: elms, birch, limes, and firs were the principal sort of trees. There were numberless temples and towers—one tower was raised by Catherine to commemorate the declaration of war by Turkey. There was a very beautiful building called the Hermitage, where the machinery for sending up dinners and changing plates is arranged. Each person has a little bell which is rung when the plates are to be changed. Very curious! The table was for eighteen covers, and there were four tables in the four corners, constructed in the same manner for six covers each, so that forty-two persons dine without the aid of a servant. The building was handsome and much decorated in the *ancien goût*. There is a Chinese village in the garden, where a surplus of visitors are lodged. I saw the Empress (Elizabeth) twice, driving in a little droschky. She looked interesting, but out of health. I understand she is very amiable and good. After perambulating the gardens I visited the stables, which were in very high order, some of the horses tolerable, but

all, I should think, too slight to carry the Emperor. We then visited an establishment of Bashkiers, who are employed in manufacturing a drink (koumiss) recommended for weak chests: the principal ingredient is mares' milk; it was very acid and nasty. We next saw the dairy, which was exceedingly nice, managed by an Englishwoman: there were cows from every country except Alderney. The whole inside covered with Dutch tiles, and remarkably clean and sweet. My countrywoman seemed very contented and happy. I had an extensive view from the towers, the most dreary flat I ever beheld, and then returned to St. Petersburg, a distance of about fifteen miles; every five miles there are nice villages, or rather barracks for soldiers who are employed in making the roads, and were then laying down boards for the wheels of the Emperor's carriage to run upon. Some of the streets were so contrived for all passengers, which was delightful. After dining at Mr. Disbrowe's, I paid a visit to Count de Maistre, the author of "Un Voyage autour de ma Chambre."

July 13th.—We had a long dusty drive to dine at Sir Daniel Bayley's, a large party, but I was glad to return home, my head being greatly tried

with the noise of the streets and the jolting of my carriage.

July 14*th.*—I received a most gratifying letter from the Grand Duke Michael, inviting me to the camp. H.I.H. spoke with pleasing recollection of England. After breakfast I passed some interesting hours at the Admiralty, where the Museum contains many curious nautical works from early times. I saw the models of the earliest ships built here, many plans drawn by Peter the Great, and many of his corrections in ship-building. His stick is preserved, on which are the different divisions of measurement in Russia, Holland, England, and France, pictures of naval battles in which he himself was so distinguished, and a very fine portrait of himself. I sat in the chair in which he presided at the Boards of Admiralty. The small boat he built was there—like a Thames wherry, but somewhat clumsy, twenty-four feet long and five wide, rowing four oars. In this boat Peter frequently rowed his Empress upon the Neva, and it greatly engaged my attention. We next went to see the new building of St. Isaac's Church: the old one had been half pulled down. The immense columns

I described, fifty-six in number, are for this church, the model of which was magnificent, and was so admirably contrived as to open in the middle and show the interior, which is very fine. I visited some shops and saw some Turkish shawls, but at such high prices, I am terrified at having a commission to purchase some for the Queen of Sweden, for the vendors are great rogues, and I am no competent judge. After dinner we took a lovely drive along the little Neva to the island of Christoffsky, the banks covered with beautiful houses, some of considerable size, and gardens. This island is the evening resort of the society, and there was a large café, where one could have all sorts of refreshments in or out of doors. There was a group of soldiers singing the wildest music imaginable. There were also two Montagnes Russes, down which the folks were sliding for their own amusement and that of others. After an hour's promenade we visited Jelaguine, the Dowager Empress's country palace. It is modern and small, but very beautifully fitted up. The gardens flat, but well laid out with pretty walks.

July 15*th.*—Immediately after breakfast I visited the great cadet establishment, where I

found an old friend, the Count Kutusoff. He recognised me immediately and was very civil indeed, conducted us through the whole, which did infinite credit to all parties. There were 1000 cadets who enter quite young, three and four years old till eight. At first they are attended by *bonnes* (female nurserymaids), and have a separate building and playground, ample space to run about in, and seem well cared for. I saw them at dinner and tasted their fare, which was excellent. The whole prepared by steam, and so complete that in a very small space food was prepared for 3000 persons daily.

They have a very valuable museum and every description of model. This establishment furnishes for the whole army except the Guards. In the course of conversation where I mentioned the size of the institution, the General observed that the Emperor, having 20,000 officers, wanted a large nursery. There are several other similar establishments. When I took my leave we went to the Corps des Mines, where there are models of all the mines in Russia. They are very curious, and give a perfect idea of the underground working. I saw a large block of malachite which had been

lately dug up in Siberia, and a piece of gold weighing sixteen pounds; multitudes of fossils and minerals, also a curious collection of coins and medals; in short, everything connected with mining. We were conducted into an excavation in the garden, where all the strata were painted and so admirably represented, one saw the appearance of the various minerals perfectly, and this was very interesting and instructive. The gold stratum was invariably perpendicular. After dinner we drove to Catherinenhof, a pleasure garden where there were several cafés dispersed about and various games. There was a large pavilion where balls and masquerades are given in winter. It appeared a handsome building of the sort, with a large centre room covered with a dome as large as the music-room in the old pavilion at Brighton. It did not seem as fashionable a resort as Christoffsky, but there was a palace of Catherine's, from which the gardens take their name. There was some pleasant rain, which we hope will cool the air, which had been oppressively hot.

July 15*th.*—We went to the Foundling Hospital, which I found well organised. The house in town contains 1000 children, and there are at least 10,000

altogether dispersed about the country. We saw all the classes, although in the summer the children are dispersed at the summer residences near the capital. Some infants had only been received the previous day; all that are brought are taken in. They appeared very clean, and had all sorts of baths contiguous for their use. The girls are educated as governesses and for different branches of trade, some were embroidering, others drawing, and a good number were running about the garden attended by nurses and governesses. The boys are educated according to their capacities, some as doctors, and for all the lower branches of trade. At twenty-one they are considered to have attained their majority, and the girls at eighteen, when they take care of themselves. In the interim they are bound out as apprentices after a year in the home. The infants are sent to the villages and put in the care of peasants, who receive five roubles a month for their keep. I understand that a large number die at this period, although there is a visiting surgeon to watch over the nurses and see that the poor little things are not neglected. I did not think it possible human nature could exhibit such ugliness as these nurses and children! We did not see one who was not

hideous—I never beheld the like! We next went over the Imperial stables with Prince Dolgorouky, who was at the head of that department. It was in the shape of a great square like the Woolwich Arsenal. Three hundred men at work making every article used in the fitting up of carriages. The whole thing was like a well organised coach-builder's shop. The men all taught their respective trades in the manufacture, the Prince preferring to have recruits who have everything to learn. The establishment was superintended by officers, and the men were in barracks, extremely well cared for, but subject to military discipline. The Prince's office was not one of idleness. One hundred and forty carriages out every day and about one thousand horses to look after and take care of. I saw some very fine coach horses, which appeared in good condition and everything as clean as possible. There was a very handsome chapel in this establishment, which, in men, women, and children, was computed to contain 3000 souls. I do not, however, consider it good policy to take trade out of the hands of the regular mechanics, especially in an infant country like this. We next went to the Arsenal, which was worth seeing—

150,000 stand of arms and all kinds of war instruments. There was as much activity in the gun department as if the country was at war with all its neighbours. We saw a sort of buggy which belonged to Peter the Great, with a measuring instrument to ascertain the number of versts he travelled, Catherine II.'s horse on which she was mounted when she headed the cavalry and seized the government. She rode in the fashion of those times like a man. Eight hundred men were employed in this establishment, which I went through with great interest. We dined at the English club, the most ancient in the town, where we had an excellent plain dinner *à l'anglaise.* The club consists of the highest Court people, and two-thirds of the members were Russians.

July 17th.—I went to church, where I heard an excellent sermon, and had the comfort of receiving the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, more than two years having elapsed since I had had an opportunity of visiting a church.. I cannot describe my feelings.

CHAPTER XI.

Visit to the Camp—The Mint—Theatres—Christening at Tsarskoe Selo—Dinners at Court—Manœuvres—Pavloffsky—The Empress Mother's Convent of Demoiselles Nobles—Peterhof—Grand Fête—Staff College—Journey to Moscow—Novgorod—Military Colonies—Torjok.

July 18*th.*—Breakfasted at 4.30, and started at 5.30 for the camp to obey the gracious and flattering commands of the Grand Duke Michael. We arrived about 7.30, and found they had already been out three hours. However, H.I.H.'s droschky was seized upon, and I was conveyed to the troops. The Grand Duke immediately galloped towards me and embraced me with all the warmth of an equal. He sent his A.D.C. to apprise his brother, the Grand Duke Nicholas, of my arrival. He also galloped towards me and jumped off his horse to welcome me with equal warmth and cordiality. Nothing could exceed T.I.H.s' kindness. Horses were immediately sent for, to mount. John Bloom-

field and I were treated with a magnificent display of troops and manœuvres. I had the good fortune to see the whole camp of 35,000 men. I never in my life saw such horses, particularly those of the artillery, that would have graced some of the bay teams in the King's stable. They have a race of horse, I suppose from the great mixture of Arab blood, showing more breeding than ours, but I know not how they are got to that immense size. The troops manœuvred admirably, and the whole thing was most imposing and interesting to a soldier. In the cavalry regiments the horses are all the same colour. The Cossacks only vary from this rule. I was in wonder and delight the whole day. We dined at four at the Grand Duke Michael's, and previous to my leaving the camp the Grand Duke Nicholas engaged me to come to him on the morrow. The officers were very attentive and civil. The chief of artillery gave me a private performance to one flank, as we were comrades, and seemed gratified with my admiration of his arm. At seven we took leave of the Grand Duke, who previously had sent for some of his English horses to show me, one in particular which I had bought for him and which he called Bloomfield. He constantly addressed

me by name, as did also the Grand Duke Nicholas. We slept soundly the better part of the road home, and went thankfully to bed at nine, broad daylight, sun shining.

July 19th.—I started at twelve, and arrived at the camp just in time for H.I.H.'s dinner. The bands were assembled at his tent, and as soon as I appeared they struck up "God Save the King." H.I.H. and the Grand Duke Michael came to meet me, and embraced me with extreme kindness. About twenty officers were present—all very civil indeed. I was seated at the head of the table with the Grand Duke Nicholas on my right, the Grand Duke Michael on my left, aud during dinner they were more than kind. Of course everything was military. The band played admirably, and executed as well as the King's private band; I must, however, guard myself by saying they played in the open air. They executed the overture to the "Freyschütz," which is difficult, and some of Rossini's airs with great taste and delicacy. After coffee I made my bow, and my carriage not having arrived I was despatched in a droschky to the village, having spent a most agreeable day. I called on Monsieur Losinsky, where I was so hospitably entertained,

and found him singing to two ladies. He sang French and Italian airs very well, had a fine voice, and sang with good taste. He also sang one or two Russian airs, which were very wild and pretty. His place looked in greater beauty from the advanced state of the flowers, which were in great profusion.

July 20th.—I had a visit from General Dörnberg, the Hanoverian Minister, and then called on Madame de Lieven, who had just arrived. I found Count Nesselrode was with her, so I did not go in, but pursued my journey to Prince Dolgorouky's residence in the Chinese village. It was a beautiful spot situated in a garden. There were several small but convenient houses where the Crown officials and other persons favoured by the Emperor reside. They all had private rooms with the convenience and accommodation of the Emperor's establishment. We had an excellent little dinner and were most kindly received. Only one person dined with us, I forget his name, but he has been engaged for the last twenty-five years in writing the history of this country, which is now nearly completed.

After dinner two droschkys were in readiness, and the Prince conducted us over the beautiful drives and walks I have already described.

Neither the horses nor wheels of the carriages made the slightest impression upon the roads. After perambulating the grounds we drove to Pavloffsky, the Empress Dowager's favourite residence. These gardens were wilder, and therefore more beautiful to my eye; the ground varied and very pretty. We stopped at a rustic temple in a charming situation, where the Empress sometimes has tea, within view of a pretty cascade. We then passed on to a beautiful ball-room, where there are reunions every Sunday. It is surrounded by a flower-garden, and fitted up inside and out with a profusion of flowers. The candelabra were already prepared. The room itself very fine and several other rooms besides. It is near a considerable piece of water covered with boats. Thence we reached the Palace, which is considerably raised above the garden, and the fall from the front of the house is striking and pretty: the water flowing below has a most agreeable effect. The church and hospital are upon rising ground opposite. We passed through the corridors and saw all the carriages waiting for Her Imperial Majesty. Nothing can exceed the sort of adoration in which the Imperial family is held, nor the degree of

subjection in which the people remain. After seeing all we could, we were conveyed in a sort of double-seated carriage for eight persons, *dos à dos* and sitting sideways, a most excellent machine for the country, through another side of Tzarskoe Selo, past the Grand Duke Nicholas' Palace, which is beautiful, to the village of Tzarskoe, through several pretty villages built with uniformity and in good taste, which belong to the Crown peasants. The peasant's house is not at all a bad one. Just as I was taking leave, I was accosted by a countryman of my own, and the Prince immediately proposed that we should go and see forty horses he has bought for the Emperor: the sight quite regaled me. This lasted till half-past ten, when we started to drive over twenty-two versts home, which we reached about one.

July 22nd.—I visited the Mint, where there was nothing doing. I was proud to see that all the machinery was English, a magnificent engine of sixty-four horse-power, twice as much as is needed, for the circulating medium here is almost entirely in paper: the silver rouble is double the value of its representative in notes. I dined at General Dörnberg's (the Hanoverian Minister), where we

were a small party, and afterwards I went to the theatre, which is a good shape, but miserable in decoration both on and off the stage—so dirty and shabby. There might have been about twenty people in the two rows of boxes; in all my travels I never saw such an empty house. In the amphitheatre there were about 100. We were seated very comfortably on chairs; the performance was Russian, and the acting was not bad. It finished with "The Caliph of Bagdad," and was very tolerable, though there was one of the oddest-looking creatures I ever saw on the stage. Two young people and the Caliph's *enchantress* did not sing amiss, and acted agreeably. There was a sort of ballet, in which the dancing was very indifferent: the figurantes were well dressed, but very awkward.

July 23rd.—I went to see some fine pictures containing views of Venice and Rome bought from the King of Poland's collection. I then visited the Corps de Génie, an admirable institution, which promises to be very complete. The Emperor has given up the palace where Paul breathed his last for the accommodation of this academy. The rooms retain some of their ancient splendour, indeed are most magnificent. The General conducted me

through the whole with marked attention. I saw several very interesting models, one of the Battle of Borodino admirably executed. I took my leave with thanks, highly pleased with my visit. I then went to the plate-glass manufactory, a fine establishment, where I saw one plate 200 inches high, and one 172 high by 72 wide. After dining at Mrs. Disbrowe's I went to the great theatre to see the "Freyschütz." I thought the performance and singing better than it was at Stockholm, but the orchestra not so good. The house is well shaped, and the boxes and pit very convenient, filled with good chairs. The Emperor's state box is in the centre, which, I am told, he never goes to. The audience was very small, only perhaps twenty boxes filled—the decoration and painting not very fresh.

Sunday, July 24th.—I breakfasted at 6.30 and started at seven for Tzarskoe Selo to assist at the christening of the Grand Duke Nicholas's infant. Arrived soon after nine, and found apartments prepared in the *Village Chinois*, where we completed our toilettes. Carriages attended to convey us all to the Palace, about a quarter of a mile's drive through the garden. Chamberlains and officials attended and conducted us through the apartments, where the

company were already assembled. Such a magnificent Court—the Grand Maître's coat one mass of gold embroidery. A few minutes before ten we were conducted through an immense suite of the most splendid rooms imaginable, though none very large, but I should think at least ten in number, to the chapel, which is in brown wood and gold, scriptural subjects well painted, and all as rich as possible. We were placed opposite the Imperial family, the altar on the left, the Court and ladies at the end.

The chapel might, I suppose, be about 36 feet by 24; the altar a separate chancel. Opening to view by great folding doors, it is not possible to see anything handsomer than this apartment; the archbishops, and bishops too, in their grand costume, had a most imposing effect. The Imperial family consisted of the Emperor and Empress Mère, the Grand Duchess of Saxe-Weimar and Grand Duchess of Orange, the Grand Duke Michael and his wife. The Grand Duke of Saxe-Weimar was there with his two sisters; the Prince of Orange, the Duke of Wurtemburg and his daughter—this latter Duke is brother to the late King and to the Empress Mother. The Emperor, Empress Mère, and the King of Prussia

were sponsors, and this was my first view of their Majesties. The infant was brought by a terribly old Princess—Wolkonsky. I trembled lest the poor little soul should be tumbled down; the ceremony began, and lasted two-and-a-half hours; there was the baptism, mass, prayers for the infant and for the Emperor and each branch of the family, during all of which every one stood. The music, vocal, was exceedingly fine; His Majesty's band and the voices were delicious, and the ensemble perfect. I saw Madame de Lieven in the distance, but could not approach her. The Empress Mother is an astonishing person, so erect, and quite as tall as Lady Hertford, and with as fine a back; they say she is swathed from her foot to her shoulders. The ceremony commenced at ten, and was over at half-past twelve; the poor little infant was quite naked, and immersed all over. How it cried! In the midst of the ceremony, I suppose when the baptism was over, the father, Grand Duke Nicholas, was presented and embraced the Empress and Emperor; the close was the Empress investing the baby with an Order. The Imperial family bowed and retired. We were conducted in carriages by chamberlains

to the *Village Chinois*, where a luncheon was provided for us, and where I remained until two o'clock, my hour of audience. I was ushered into the Imperial presence; His Majesty came up to me immediately, took me by both hands, and welcomed me in the most cordial manner, saying: "You are not a stranger here, you are known to us all, and demand from us all every acknowledgment for your constant attention whilst we were in England, a period which I shall never forget." His Majesty then recollected and mentioned many little incidents which occurred in England, to which I was a party, always speaking in the first person plural; he particularly reminded me of my promotion. "Don't you remember when we were at Woolwich, and when you changed your coat during dinner with another officer, being that day promoted to the rank of General?" The fact was so; I changed my coat with George Wood, who succeeded me as aide-de-camp. H.M. then branched into politics, spoke with great personal affection of the King, and how sensibly he felt all his kindness to himself and his brothers; in short, was more than amiable, and, shaking hands again with me, said: "You must come to our manœuvres, which may interest

you." I, of course, expressed my gratitude with no ordinary warmth on taking my leave. I was then conducted to the reigning Empress (Elizabeth), who was extremely amiable. She was deplorably out of health, and was unable to attend the christening. She mentioned my being in the garden, and regretted that the state of her health had prevented her seeing me there. Nothing could be more condescending than her manner. I then went to be presented to the Empress Mother, who was also most gracious, spoke of my attention to her sons, and that she had long known me, though this was the first time she had had the pleasure of seeing me. She hoped I liked Russia, and that I spent my time agreeably, inquired how I found the various institutions, which she understood I had visited, and which I, of course, praised, especially those which had the good fortune to be distinguished by Her Majesty's protection. She regretted never having had the gratification of visiting England, and said all sorts of kind things. Thus ended my audience, to my inexpressible relief.

We were then conducted with the rest of the company to the magnificent Salle de Réception,

where the circle was held before dinner, we men all on one side, the ladies on the other; amongst them was the Queen of Georgia. About 3.30 the Imperial family entered. The Empress passed first on our side, the Emperor accosted the ladies, and each person had something civil said to them. I never saw such diamonds, nor in such profusion as those worn by the Imperial family. We were then conducted to the dining-room, and placed opposite the Emperor. The Grand Duke Michael was followed by the clergy, such strange-looking figures with long beards. The Archbishop was a fine venerable old gentleman, with hair and beard as white as snow. The dining-room was a pendant to that in which the circle was held, and nothing could surpass it in richness and elegance. We sat down 500. The table all round the room, the dinner well served and as hot as if we had only been a dozen people, and the wine excellent. A fine band played during dinner, and we drank to the health of each individual of the Imperial family in bumpers of champagne. I never could have conceived such order and admirable arrangement. Our part of the table was served upon gold plate by blacks dressed *in fine Turkish shawls.*

The only thing I thought not of a piece were the footmen's liveries, which were in worsted lace. The pages wore scarlet, not rich either, only a little embroidery on the collar; the head one's coat was also embroidered in front. The great Court officials handed the wine to the Imperial family. About six we rose, had coffee, and then departed in Imperial coaches to our Chinese village. Count Nesselrode, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, told me the Emperor had ordered all arrangements, horses, etc., etc., for me, and would expect me on the morrow. We returned to town filled with wonder and admiration, and not sorry to retire to bed. Just before leaving the palace, I called on Prince Dolgorouky who, showing me a letter, said: "There is the order for three horses to be in readiness for you and your young men to-morrow." How very civil and kind to give such immediate thought for our accommodation!

July 25th.—I breakfasted at 3.30 a.m., and started before four with General Dörnberg for the camp, hoping to be at the Emperor's at six, the appointed hour. We found horses, and all the Generals and A.D.C.'s mounted, expecting the Emperor every moment. In about two minutes

he too mounted his horse, and soon called me to his side with great kindness, giving me his hand, which is considered great condescension here. He said several gracious things to me, hoped I liked my horse, then began upon his troops. We soon reached the ground, where the Prince of Orange awaited H.I.M. After they had saluted, the Prince rode up to me and spoke cordially of old times. The exercise was of the Grand Duke Nicholas's Division of Infantry, and I never saw a finer military sight, such time, and such precision of movement—about 12,000 men. The Emperor ordered me to stay near him that I might better observe all the movements, and I was greatly surprised at their accuracy. About nine rain began to fall, and we were all wet. When all was over the Emperor galloped away, and we all followed. When he took leave of us he said: "Gentlemen, this is not the first wetting we have had, and it will not, I hope, be the last." I unfortunately had no change, and was forced to sit three hours in my wet clothes. We got back to St. Petersburg about one.

July 26th.—We started again for the camp before 4 a.m., and after equipping ourselves at the bivouac

of the cavalry near the Emperor's quarters we proceeded to the reunion of officers at H.I.M.'s lodge, and nearly met with a serious accident going down a little hill close to the Emperor's. The four horses at wheel overran the leaders, and presently our small Russian postilion was looking in at our windows. However, after some kicking and breakage of harness we got down and reached our destination in good time, had some coffee and mounted our horses. H.I.M. soon after mounted, called me up, and talked very kindly until we met the Prince of Orange. Nothing could exceed the condescension of the Imperial family or the kindness and attention of all their suite. At six the Emperor put the corps in movement, and the precision of the division commanded by the Grand Duke Michael was admirable. Six thousand men marched in line with large intervals for the artillery, for a mile, and when halted it scarcely needed correction. They certainly are not rapid, but appear to have all other possible qualities. The Emperor kept me near him the whole day, and often addressed me. He had the most intimate knowledge of the details of the service, and the most trifling inaccuracy does not escape him. He is wonderfully calm. The troops

continued in constant movement till one o'clock, and passed by looking as if they had just left their quarters. The artillery horses were magnificent. We then went to see the explosion of five mines, which answered perfectly. This branch of the service, which is under the Grand Duke Nicholas, is highly organised. We then took leave, the Emperor saying "Au revoir, Jeudi à cinq heures." We walked our horses gently to the village, and went to Sir James Wylie's, who regaled us with an excellent meal of salt beef, smoked fish, and champagne.

On our return to the town we had another accident. The leading postilion's horse fell, and threw down his companion and one of the wheel horses, and the poor boy lay under two of them. The leader's head was lying directly backwards, so that he must have tumbled right over. I never saw such a frightful battle-like appearance as the horses exhibited; however, we fortunately extricated the poor lad without a fracture, though he was much hurt, and we were obliged to get another postilion. We sent him home in Lord Castlereagh's *calèche*, which passed at the moment we were anxiously trying to take care of the unfortunate boy. A good many people

assembled, and amongst them an officer to whom we were describing his escape, who said, "N'importe, c'est un Russe," and wanted the poor wretch to ride. However, we took better care of him, and got safe back to town about six. We went to the French Play, where I was much amused. The vaudevilles were tolerably well acted, and the ballet was exceedingly pretty.

July 27th.—I was glad to find that the postilion was much better and had not sustained any fracture. I visited the Institution of the Demoiselles Nobles, an establishment of 700 young noblewomen, educated and brought up free of all expense to their parents at the cost of the Empress Mother.

July 29th.—The review having been postponed yesterday on account of wet weather we proceeded to-day to the camp, and had an excellent bivouac dinner at 2.30. Mounted our horses and awaited the Emperor, who soon appeared and after a kindly greeting led us to the fight. The manœuvre lasted till nine o'clock, and was a display of extraordinary order and precision of movements ; 12,000 advanced in line, and it was perfectly preserved. Nothing could be finer than the corps, horses, etc. His Majesty, on taking leave, appointed us for seven

o'clock the next morning, and we were comfortably put up at Sir James Wylie's. The next morning we breakfasted at six, and awaited the Emperor on horseback. It threatened rain. His Majesty was very gracious, and galloped away to the head of the advanced posts. The manœuvre was very interesting. The enemy being left at bivouac all night, they had entrenched themselves and made an obstinate resistance. I never saw finer movements, though perhaps rather slow, in order to keep great accuracy, which H.I.M. requires. The last charge of the cuirassiers and heavy cavalry was a splendid sight. We left off eight miles from home, and during the whole of the operations there was not a moment's halt, marching over very rough ground all the time. The Empress Mother and the Grand Duchesses were all out and accompanied the troops to the last, when the Imperial family had a collation in a little hut, and we too had some cold beef and champagne. It rained heavily several times, and we got very wet. At two we returned to our bivouac and then set out as soon as possible for town, H.I.M. having taken leave of us with great kindness, appointing us to attend his great *fête* at Peterhof.

July 31st.—We started rather late for Pavloffsky, the Empress's country palace, but arrived just as the clocks were striking. We were shown into a nice apartment, and found Her Majesty did not dine till 2.30, so had to wait an hour-and-a-half in full dress. I sent to know whether Madame de Lieven would receive me, which she most good-humouredly did. She lived in a little cottage a short distance from the Palace. She seemed very glad to see me, and I found her looking well. She spoke a great deal about old times, and assured me I had made a most favourable impression here, not only with the Court but with every one else. Indeed, I have been treated with the utmost kindness. At a quarter past two I took my leave, and we were conducted to the *salon* where every one was assembled, about 100. We were, I believe, the only strangers—a particular mark of favour. When the Empress was announced we all placed ourselves, the ladies on one side, the gentlemen on the other. Her Majesty first spoke to some of the ladies and then came across to me, saying many civil things. She was accompanied by the two Grand Duchesses, the Prince of Orange, and the Duke of Saxe-Weimar. Dinner was announced,

the ladies all filed off, the gentlemen followed. I was placed opposite Her Majesty. The room was magnificent, and competent to hold at least 200. Her Majesty spoke to me nearly the whole of dinner, paying me all sorts of attention. She was an astonishing person, so erect, and her figure so well preserved. She had on immense pearls connected by large diamonds. One pearl on her breast was as large as a small egg. The Grand Duchess also wore some very fine pearls and other rich jewels. The Grand Duchess of Saxe-Weimar had two charming daughters, who were at dinner. The display of fruits was beyond anything I ever saw, and the dinner excellent. It lasted about an hour-and-a-half, when H.M. rose, and we were conducted through more fine apartments to the great saloon, when there was again a circle, and where the Empress once more accosted me, and desired the officials to show me everything, regretting that the house was so full that I could not see the private apartments. She particularly desired I should see her library, and should the rain cease I should have a carriage to attend her through the gardens. I was also invited to spend the evening. H.I.M. then bowed and retired, and the Grand Chamber-

lain desired us to assemble again at a quarter past seven. The interval we spent in our rooms, as the rain fell incessantly. I saw the library, which is a new addition and very handsome, containing about 40,000 volumes, very choice. King George IV. sent His Majesty a splendid work, describing the interiors of our palaces. It is very well executed, and most splendidly bound; but no country that I have ever seen would be prudent in sending a description of its palaces to this country, particularly England. Here everything is upon such a much finer scale and so grand that we appear very small indeed. At the hour appointed we were taken to a handsome saloon with marble columns and two very fine rooms at each end, with great folding doors between them, and the windows a single sheet of plate glass, giving a clear view of the distant scenery. I wonder we have not adopted this luxury among many others. Whilst assembled here the Imperial family were paying their civilities to every one; the Grand Duchess Marie sent for me to be presented. She was very amiable, and without pretension. She said the company was walking a polonaise, and that here it was customary to ask the gentlemen to dance, offering me her hand, so

I promenaded like the rest: my partner was very agreeable. Then the Princess of Orange came and resumed the acquaintance we made at Brussels. Then the Grand Duchess Hélène took me up; she was educated by our Princess Royal, the Queen of Wurtemburg, and is charming, speaks English perfectly, and is very clever. Presently I was summoned to play at whist with H.I.M., which I did in fear and trembling, having no money. Luckily I won several points, and was delighted when the game was over, not knowing what the stakes were. I walked about whilst H.M. played a second rubber, but to my great dismay I was again ordered to play, and finished by losing ten points, which turned out to be as many roubles, so by borrowing from J. B. I was able to discharge my debts. There was then some dancing —country dances, quadrilles, and waltzes. The Grand Duchesses danced beautifully, especially the Princess of Orange, but I did not think the toilettes of the ladies particularly *recherchées* or rich. At eleven we supped, and I was summoned to the Empress's table. A very fine supper served on several small tables in the large room. H.M. was very marked in her attention to me, and

ordered a letter to be written to enable me to see the Convent of Nobles, and desired the great officers to take care that every attention was paid us. In short, I never experienced more flattering notice: Castlereagh and J. B. were also included in this. After supper the Empress was conducted by her two daughters to the door, and took leave of us all, the group coming up to me hoping I had not found the evening too long, and had not been *ennuye*'d, with many other civil things, and we all separated. We were in our carriage a quarter before twelve, and proceeded in heavy rain very prosperously for a couple of versts, when the fore-wheel came off. The carriage did not upset, but we were disabled, and the end of the axletree was broken. The *laquais de place* galloped off upon one of the horses to get a carriage of some kind from the post-house at Tzarskoe Selo; but nothing of the kind was to be had, so the coachman tried to patch up the wheel and bind it with a stick, and we advanced 100 yards but came down again; the poor fellow then, to our great amusement, started the carriage upon three wheels, and contrived to get up to the post-house, about three versts. I never heard

of such a thing; he, however, did it. The rain fell in torrents, and as we were dressed in all our finery, we could not leave the carriage. In the post-house we got a wretched room, and the *laquais* went to the royal stables. A coach was immediately sent in which we came safe to town, arriving at nine a.m. The close of our day was miserable enough, but the beginning was really imperial, with all the comfort of an hospitality that is not always found with such splendour. I must mention that I was presented to old Madame de Lieven, an extraordinary person of eighty-four, not the least deaf, and looking very fresh.

August 2nd.—I went to the Convent of the Demoiselles Nobles, and found that the Empress had been graciously pleased to order the masters, etc., to be assembled, for it was vacation. We were first conducted to the Establishment for the Bourgeoisie (middle class); 400 young persons are educated in this institution, which was in the highest state of organisation and order. Some of the young persons were the children of poor officers who had either been killed or worn out. They were dressed in light blue stuff, and others in brown with white slips and pinafores. They

looked very nice, and the home well adapted for the purpose. The Lady Superior conducted us through the whole, and showed us their various work. Their instruction is regulated by the capacity of each, and they are trained as governesses, milliners, or servants. It was delightful to see these poor things rescued from misery and crime, and respectably brought up to be useful members of society. One was dressed differently from the others, and upon inquiry, I found she had been left at the Empress's door on the anniversary of the Peace of Paris. Her parents of course unknown. She was therefore called Paris. She was the nicest-looking of the whole number. The dormitories were very clean, spacious, and everything upon an Imperial scale. This building adjoins that in which the Demoiselles Nobles are established and educated. It is a magnificent structure, built by the Empress Elizabeth for the purpose of bringing up the daughters of the poor nobility. The rooms are very fine, and the gardens well laid out. I was met here by the Lady Superior, who was a lady in waiting and *dame de portrait* (this is an Order worn by the Court ladies), and a most genteel lady of rank. She expressed H.I.M.'s desire that I

should be conducted through the whole house, and she proposed attending me. The establishment of governesses, masters, and officials is very large. Her Excellency began at the junior class, 700 in number, and they went through their various examinations, and, I confess, surprised me greatly. Out of compliment to me, there were several chalked maps of England upon a large black board, and there was scarcely a large town they did not lay down. Then the various canals, and their object of connecting the internal trade by the junction of rivers. I was astonished as they seemed equally well acquainted with Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. They had a general knowledge of geography and history, and seemed admirably educated. We went through all the classes, and however much I had heard of this establishment it surpassed all my preconceived notions. The Empress Mother and the Grand Duchesses are in the habit of spending whole mornings in the schoolroom, taking their work there, and sitting with the Lady Superior during the hours of instruction. The pupils remain nine years, and are then established either with their parents, or by the Empress. They are considered the objects of

her peculiar care. The upper classes were well versed in English literature, and seemed capable of understanding the merits of our authors, and comparing them with those of other countries. After the classes we adjourned to the music room, where the pupils played and sang very well, particularly vocal music. We then went into the embroidery room, and some of the work on frames was very beautiful. Both institutions were then assembled in the great saloon, and that was indeed a very touching sight. Each establishment was then taken to their respective dining halls, and we followed. This again was a charming sight; everything so clean and orderly, and in all respects so honourable to the founder and patron. Before they sat down they sang a very beautiful hymn, and then proceeded with all quietness to their excellent, but simple, repast. Each girl had a napkin, and they were served by peasant girls in their national costume, very pretty. A tray was brought to me with some of the dinner, of which we gladly partook. The ceremony was then over, we bowed, and the girls all rose and made the prettiest curtsies possible. The Superior then conducted us to the Chapel, which is fine and decorated with Scripture subjects

in crayons, drawn by the pupils. Here we took our final leave; I kissed the lady's hand, and she embraced me *à la russe*. I had spent five hours in the review of this establishment, and never remember to have been better repaid. The Empress Elizabeth built this convent with the design of abdicating and placing herself at its head. It is certainly one of the finest buildings in this great capital; but I was struck with the few pretty girls there were in that great number. I only observed one beauty, and about twenty more tolerably good-looking. They were all dressed alike; the costumes of the peasants were pretty; the hair tightly plaited hanging down the back, a white waist and brown petticoat. H.M. sent her Secretary from Pavloffsky to attend me, and every attention was paid me.

August 3rd.—I started immediately after breakfast for Peterhof, and arrived at a quarter past ten. Drove straight to the Palace provided for the Corps Diplomatique, when I found my name on an excellent apartment. On the road we passed a fine convent, then the Palace of the Grand Duke Constantine, but otherwise the road is so low that though one drives near the sea it is not visible. The Palace allotted us is a magnificent building,

with splendid suites of rooms and a delicious English garden, with a fine piece of water. We drove in the carriages, which were waiting, all through the grounds, and then to Peterhof, about two versts distant. This was Catherine II.'s favourite residence. We saw a great paper manufactory, which is kept at the expense of the Crown. Then we were conducted all through the gardens, which were to be the scene of such magnificent festivity in the evening. They were laid out by Peter the Great, and finished by Catherine II. in the Dutch style, and the order wonderful. The château is upon an elevated terrace, from which there is an abrupt fall, forming a beautiful amphitheatre, in the centre of which is the principal fountain. The amphitheatre is surrounded by trees, and frames were erected here for the illumination, immediately in view of the great balcony. There were several other fountains, and on the stream which they formed, were erected various frames of different shapes terminating in an immense structure of great height with the Empress's cypher, surrounded by oak leaves, and surmounted by the Imperial crown. Besides all this, there were several other alleys prepared as well. The sea looked beautiful, covered

with boats, steam-vessels, and several men-of-war at anchor. At this spot, close to the sea, was Peter the Great's residence, where I saw his bed, nightcap, and dressing-gowns, and went to see his kitchen and *batterie de cuisine!* What an extraordinary man! Much as the world has advanced since his time there is scarcely a line which he traced which is not followed at this moment, and all his works are found the most useful and best calculated for his objects. The bath in this garden was, I suppose, one hundred yards long and fifty wide. There were four small boats to row into the middle and jump off, and in the centre are several fountains, so that the bathers can douche themselves. There were a dozen dressing-rooms, all enclosed by a wall at least thirty feet high! When we left the gardens at two to dress for dinner not a lamp had been suspended. Imagine what an undertaking to place and light a hundred thousand lamps! But "many hands make light work." Six thousand men (sailors) did the work wonderfully. At half-past three we sat down to a splendid dinner, two very good bands playing. After coffee the master of the ceremonies announced that we were to assemble at a quarter before seven for the ball. We

did so, and looked odd enough in black dominos. About seven we were conducted to the Palace and ushered into the rooms, where in this despotic country was certainly exhibited the most incongruous spectacle imaginable. Every one is admitted, and one sees the Imperial family polonaising amidst the crowd, neither apparently feeling the slightest *gaucherie.* The polonaise continued till ten, when we supped. The whole Imperial family were most kind to me. The Emperor left his partner to shake hands with me in the crowd. The Empress Mother sent for me, and was most particularly gracious, and asked me whether I had been pleased with her establishment and with all I had seen? I had but one answer to make, "Admiration et reconnaissance." The Grand Duchess then came up and was very kind also. I then retired from the Imperial circle and seized upon a lady to walk the polonaise. The old Empress led off with the Prince of Orange, and all the Imperial family danced indiscriminately. The Grand Duke Nicholas accosted me, saying, "Well, my English friend, are you content? But you have not as yet been introduced to my wife You must come and see me at the Palais d'Hiver en frac. She is a good wife," and many other kind

speechesescaped His Highness. This Grand Duchess has not yet recovered her confinement. The Grand Duke Michael invited me to dine with him, and in the crowd touched me on the shoulder, saying, "Quel jour pouvez-vous dîner chez moi? Vous viendrez en frac et sans cérémonie." (This in Russia where every soldier always wore uniform was considered a great compliment.) I ventured to say I had intended starting for Moscow, so then he said, "Then when you come back remember you are to come to me." Nothing could be more amiable.

The lighting up was completed in three-quarters of an hour; the scene from the balcony of the Palace was the most extraordinary imaginable—the mixture of fire and water—for under the latter element the former burns brilliantly. The night was calm and dark, so that everything contributed to augment the strange impression of the scene. The mass of people was incredible, all collected round the Palace, at least 50,000, and 5000 carriages were on the grounds. A deadly silence was pursued, not a breath was heard except several bands playing in the different rooms where dancing was kept up, but in my life I never saw so few good-looking persons! At ten we were summoned to supper, which was

magnificently served. This over, we followed the Imperial family in *chars-à-banc* through the gardens filled with people, and every alley lighted up to the uttermost; still not a word was uttered. The Emperor walked about quite alone in the midst of his subjects, but such is the habit of the country that no excitement could force the expression of their feelings. They all ate and drank, and after a long drive round the gardens we returned home at half-past one. Imagine two hours of driving through illuminations. This gives some notion of their magnitude; but I own nothing surprised me more than the tranquillity of the people. It was like death, and they certainly showed no signs of enjoyment. Four thousand horses have been employed in the service of the Court for this fête. When I met Prince Dolgorouky, Master of the Horse, I apologised to him for taking the Emperor's carriage the night we broke down; he said directly, "J'étois si content de nos gens que j'avais envie d'embrasser l'homme qui étoit de service ce jour-là; malheureusement j'étois ici, autrement la voiture auroit roulée un peu plus vîte."

August 4th.—The look-out from my rooms was quite beautiful; everything so neat. After

breakfast we drove out again, and incredible to say, the grounds did not look as if a soul had been in them. Every wire on which the lamps were hung was removed, only the frames left, and the walks as smooth as if untrodden for weeks. This, when one thinks of the numbers of *chars-à-banc* that rolled over them, and the crowds that were spread in every direction, seems marvellous. Not a flower had been touched, and Mons. Narischkin, the Lord Steward, told me that only one tea-spoon was missing, though 30,000 of the populace had been fed in the Imperial tents pitched for the occasion. He also told me he had had to serve the Emperor's table 25 covers, his own 150, ours 150, the generals' 200, and 61 tables besides of some 10 to 12 covers each, all at the same moment, and I assure you our table was as good and hot as if we had been a small party. At eleven I took my leave of the kind Russians and returned to St. Petersburg.

I visited the malachite manufactory, but they had nothing ready. In the course of my walk I passed the Winter Palace, and paced its front, which is about 280 yards, and its width 214. The front to the Neva combines great beauty and

magnificence. To this is connected by galleries the Hermitage, of about the same length. The *Grand* Palace, inhabited by Peter the Great, in the corner of the Summer Garden, is only 90 paces in length, and 31 in width; two storeys high, a little mean building anywhere, but in the midst of all these grand Palaces, it is like a very small gardener's lodge. I visited the Narischkin gallery of pictures, which is much finer in all respects than Carlton House. Pictures of all schools, and also many fine marble sculptures. Madame's apartment was beautiful and of great extent. The ball-room the dimensions of a large riding-house. A *large* dessert service of malachite. I believe this collection contains some of the rarest works in Europe.

August 6th.—I went to see the État Major (Staff College), an establishment organised upon as gigantic a scale as this country. The building is opposite the Winter Palace; about 2800 people are employed in this department of the army, and 1000 are lodged in this building; 250 men are allotted to clean out and look after the apartments, and it must be borne in mind that everything is made here that the establishment requires, and that

the *whole* military service in this branch originates with this department. They not only print all their orders but make all their types. A topographical corps is attached to this department, whose surveys are also all engraved here. Their maps are very good though yet in infancy, but the collection of foreign maps is most extensive. Every general upon undertaking a command is furnished with the very best published. There is a fine library and observatory, a strong room for the archives, formerly the German theatre, which is equally striking for its construction, as for the order with which all is arranged. There is a gallery passing all round behind and before the portfolios and books, which is ascended by inclined planes; this affords much ease in transporting oneself to the various elevations, and being novel surprised me. I spent eight hours inspecting this vast building, and the chief who attended me made me a present of their latest engraved survey. We dined at five, and started for Moscow, our party, Mr. Kennedy, Lord Cassilis's brother, and his son, John Bloomfield, and Count Kielmansegge, and two servants, besides the courier, eight persons. The carriage very comfortable, with two *coupés*, one before and

one behind ; nothing could be more prosperous than our journey, and on the fourth day we reached the Hôtel du Nord at Moscow scarcely fatigued. The road to Novgorod from St. Petersburg, 180 versts, was very good, but through a wretched country, scarcely a rise, but an indifferent soil little improved; one, however, passes frequent and populous villages. At Novgorod, the former capital of this district, nothing worthy of notice except the Cathedral of St. Sophia, which was in a state of great neglect, very little space for the congregation ; the roof supported by massive masonry from the floor, so little was architecture understood here in the year 1490, when the cathedral was erected. The town, though reckoned one of the third class in the Empire, is miserable and gone much to ruin. The River Wolkow divides it into two districts, and enables the wretched inhabitants to carry on some commerce. I must not omit to mention the military colonies, three of which we passed. These establishments give some uneasiness to Europe, though many think they may in the end cause embarrassment to this country. By their means the next male generation become soldiers. At present their organisation is pretty nearly as follows : In the immense extent

of Crown possessions this system is to become general. New villages are built for the peasants, each house containing four families below and eight soldiers above. The buildings are pretty, with gardens and walks, which have a good effect, particularly when contrasted with the unsightly huts which form the ordinary village here, presenting the gable end to the street. They are all of wood, and none painted. The population is employed in clearing and tilling the land and in making roads, and such of the peasants as are capable of bearing arms are enrolled and become soldiers. All are subject to military discipline and order, which is a cause of complaint amongst these people, but what is said to affect them most is losing their beards. The houses are very clean, and furnish a great contrast to the filthy state of a Russian cottage. These colonies are always situated near some river as may best carry out the two objects of the institution, viz., to create the most colossal army in the world, and to improve the face of the country. Both these results are already manifest, as fine corn is growing everywhere, and the children are being educated and drilled. The produce of this industry is divided in three parts, one to meet the expenses of the Crown,

one for education, and the remaining one for the peasants' sole use. This is an outline of this weapon supposed to be so mighty.

Nothing further arrested our attention till Torjok, on the River Tvertza, and famous for the embroidered leather so much considered in Russia. Then we arrived at Tver, where the aforementioned river joins the Volga. The town is beautifully situated, well built, and contains some fine churches, monasteries, and convents. When the Grand Duchess of Oldenburg was driven from her duchy by Napoleon, the Emperor gave her and the Grand Duke an asylum at Tver, where she resided in the Episcopal Palace. There are several charitable institutions there, kept up by the Emperor and the Empress Mother, and the navigation of the Volga gives much activity to the town. As it happened to be a fête-day, we saw the costumes of the place in full array. They were very pretty, a sort of parti-coloured handkerchief wrapping the head up close, and falling down the back; a black veil also hangs carelessly. The gown covered with coloured embroidery, and generally a border of gold lace. The effect was novel, and seemed very costly for a peasant girl.

About three o'clock we espied Moscow, and stopped the carriage just opposite Petrowsky, Napoleon's headquarters. The day was fine, the sun bright, giving an increased effect to the gold and silver minarets and domes which surmount the churches and religious establishments of this extraordinary capital. We remained motionless for some time, contemplating this scene, which was so entirely new, and the splendour of which surpasses all imagination. We then proceeded, and reached our hotel at four o'clock.

CHAPTER XII.

Moscow—The Kremlin—Treasury—Journey to Nijni Novgorod—The Great Fair—Bokhars—Dinner at the Governor's—Tomb of Cosmo Minim—Departure from Nijni—Schlüsselbourg—Return to St. Petersburg—Grand Duke Michael—His new Palace—Return to Sweden.

THE entrance to Moscow is disappointing; splendid palaces are bounded by miserable huts; but the first view of this ancient capital is dazzling. We were so little fatigued by our long journey that we went to the play, and were much amused with a Russian pantomime. The Theatre was magnificent, and quite new, so very fresh, and it is said to be the largest in Europe; but the Russian unwillingly believes anything equals what he finds at home. I believe the theatres at Milan and Naples are both larger!

August 11th.—Our first visit was of course to the Kremlin. Passing under its walls we saw

a charming garden, which has lately been made in the trench of the fortress. We were then conducted to the great bell, which weighs 200 tons. It has never been raised, and the metal is estimated to be worth £20,000. The Kremlin is elevated above the town, and under its walls flows the River Moskowa, divided from these by a wide road and handsome granite quay. The panorama from the top of the tower which we ascended, is one of the finest in the world—350 churches all ornamented with domes of gold, silver, and painted green, each some fanciful shape. Within the Kremlin are sixteen, the Cathedral of the Assumption being the richest of all. We visited this place of worship and the extraordinary relics it is supposed to contain. There is but little space for the congregation, and it would seem that the adoration of the Icons forms the principal part of the Greek worship. The whole of the altar-piece was in silver-gilt, only exhibiting the heads, hands, and feet of the images, their drapery being all in silver-gilt, and often decorated with precious stones; one had a most valuable diamond amidst fine pearls. Every Russian has an image in his room, and according as he is

more or less a devotee, it occupies a conspicuous place or is hidden away in a corner.

The Emperor Alexander has erected a statue in bronze to the memory of the great citizen Cosmo Minim, of Nijni, who called forth the famous warrior, Dmitri Pojarsky, and, contributing all his immense wealth to equip the army, marched against Moscow, defeated and drove the Poles from Russia and secured its independence. The statue is therefore interesting and not bad, the figures colossal. Near this statue stands the remarkable old church called Vassili Blagennoi, built 1540, in the time of Ivan IX., surnamed the Terrible, who was so pleased with the work that in order the architect should never build such another he ordered his eyes to be put out. We drove about the town, where there was an appearance of considerable activity and movement : the shops are under arcades. I called on Prince Galitzin, the Governor, and after dinner went to see the "Freyschütz," which was very well given, and the singing very good. The theatre stands by itself and is admirably constructed for exterior effects and interior accommodation, the costumes very rich. The Colonel of Police superintends the carriages and keeps great order,

and if when a carriage comes up the owner is not ready the coachman has to drive off instantly by word of command from the Colonel. The equipages were not magnificent, but all with four horses.

August 12th.—We visited the Treasury, and I never beheld such riches belonging to the Crown —the crowns of all the different countries now annexed to Russia—Kasan, Georgia, Astrakan, Siberia, Crimea, and Poland. The most curious thing was a double throne on which sat the brothers Ivan and Peter, who reigned together, and behind is a space which it is said was occupied by the Tzarina Sophie, who reigned during the minority of these two princes, and from which she prompted their first speech at their coronation. Ivan died soon after, and Peter reigned alone. His mother was shut up in a convent for intent to murder Peter. We saw many curious things in this apartment, among others the "stretcher" upon which Charles XII. was carried after he was wounded at the Battle of Pultowa, and which (being closely pursued) he was obliged to quit and mount his horse. It is as remarkable for its simplicity as this great prince was for his courage. In a lower room we saw the model of a palace

intended to have been built by Catherine II., a magnificent idea! That now inhabited by the Emperor is shabby enough. There are portraits of the Czars and Czarinas, bad specimens of art. In the afternoon we drove to the Sparrow Hills from whence Napoleon had his first view of Moscow! What a sensation! The place is very advantageous, and sufficiently elevated above the River Moskowa. We drove home by the fine Convent of Devitchéi, where Peter the Great's first wife died after taking the veil. It is also said that the Empress Sophie was confined there till her death. It is very extensive and very handsome.

August 13th.—We visited the Galitzin Hospital, which was admirably managed; it contains 120 aged and infirm persons, who are taken care of for life. We drove to the Simonowski promenade, but the rain fell so heavily we lost the gay effects of the Oriental dresses and the costumes of the country, which are so interesting to strangers. The view of Moscow from the Convent is very fine, the multitude of towers and minarets quite bewildering, and the general colouring of the roofs in light green has a most pleasing effect. The inhabitants are

only permitted to employ two colours, green and red, and the former predominates.

August 14th.—We started at seven, and stopped the carriage at a short distance from Moscow to contemplate it for the last time. The morning was very fine and lighted up the innumerable minarets and domes which characterise this very remarkable town. Its early name was "Forty-times-Forty," meaning that it contained 1600 churches within its walls. We soon came to the country Palace Michael, with a fine oak wood, the first we had seen in the immense tract of country over which we had travelled, but which is so monotonous that a single day's journey suffices to give an idea of the whole country. A few versts from Moscow we passed a fine country place of Prince Galitzin's. The building is very extensive, but has a shabby piece of water in front. Proceeding onwards we innocently got upon forbidden ground and were charged by a single Cossack, whom we ran over before our coachman was able to pull up his nine horses and ponderous diligence: however, fortunately he was not hurt. It appeared that we had inadvertently driven upon a new road not yet opened to the public, and whilst we were parleying with a

horde of Cossacks the Civil Governor of Moscow drove up, and before we could remonstrate he had our coachman off his box, and ordered one of his attendants to give him a flogging, which order he was not long in obeying to the letter. I immediately jumped down and expostulated with this great man, telling him who I was. This lowered the tone of my friend, who took us for ordinary travellers, and at the same time he explained the necessity of keeping the peasants in order, as they had lately overthrown and killed a Cossack who had orders to prevent travellers from going on these roads. I did not defend my poor peasant coachman, but regretted he had been so severely belaboured, as it is no easy matter to pull up six horses abreast at wheel, and some were without bridles in their mouths. However, as the man did not complain I thought it superfluous to delay longer, beyond observing that I believed it was unusual to impede foreign ministers journeying through the country. The official ended by being very civil, and sent two Cossacks to escort my carriage, and an officer to precede us in order that the bridges should be repaired for us, and that we should have no delay or impediments within his jurisdiction; so the little

contretemps turned out fortunate, for we were preceded by Government couriers all the way, by which means we always found horses ready, and orders had been given by the authorities to secure for me all possible facility, which I have invariably experienced since I left St. Petersburg. This Governor, having been on a tour of inspection, knew nothing of the interest taken in my progress. To return to my poor coachman: we administered a glass of brandy to restore his physical powers, his moral system having in no way suffered, and we were soon again in motion. Our route presented difficulties of sandy and clay roads, which the late rains had made almost impassable. However, we got on slowly, the country quite the same till we reached Moserum on the River Ocka, which we crossed in a ferry-boat, and as we had six horses at wheel with three in front, and two postilions on the centre horses, we filled the ferry-boat pretty well. The authorities at the various towns and villages waited upon me, proffering every possible attention. The Commandant at Moserum crossed the ferry, and saw us fairly off. Vladimir and Moserum were the only places of note on this road, both extremely pretty on the high banks of two

rivers; the churches as usual ornamented by minarets. Churches, convents, monasteries, and barracks form the principal features in all the towns. After passing a miserable, low flat for ten versts, chiefly marshy and coarse grass, we ascended a sand-hill, and from this point to Nijni the country improved very much. The inhabitants, a fine, tall race of people, and less frightful; villages larger and more frequent; and I never saw finer corn—as far as the eye could reach the country was well cultivated. It puzzled me to know where manure could be found to dress such an immense tract, and where the people came from to get the corn in and off the ground. The weight of the crops, to judge of the stooks, was beyond our average.

August 17th.—We got our first view of Nijni eight versts off. We found a little inn, where we breakfasted and dressed, lest time should be lost in getting housed. The weather had been thick and hazy, but cleared up, and the view was beautiful and unique. We looked down upon the River Ocka, had a glimpse of the town, and a good view of the great Bazaar; the river wide, and the right bank abrupt and woody, the left bank flat. In an hour we reached the town, and immediately crossed

to the Bazaar, where I found my banker, and was taken by him to the Governor. He was apprised of my coming, and immediately sent one of the chief officers of police to provide a house, which was quickly done, and we took possession, left our servants there, and then wandered about. Nothing could be more picturesque than the position of Nijni Novgorod. The town is built at the confluence of the Volga and Ocka upon a very elevated site. There is a lower town which extends to the banks of the Ocka, from which one crosses a fine bridge of boats to the Bazaar. There are many churches and convents, and these towns are said to contain 10,000 inhabitants; but during the Fair all the authorities remove to the Bazaar, where buildings are erected for their reception. The Bazaar is built upon a tongue of land formed by the Volga and the Ocka, and is in the form of an oblong of enormous extent, containing shops under a colonnade well suited to the march of trade, and the arrangement of the shops is such that not only each nation, but each particular branch of industry, has its quarters. There was a long line of Chinese pavilions, fantastically constructed and appropriated to the commerce between Russia and China. Other

buildings were plain and useful. The Government House is fine, and has a commanding portico. It contains a large ball-room, and every kind of office for the despatch of business, bank, etc., etc. The quantity of boats lying in the river was inconceivable, and so strangely constructed. These remain for the transport of European industry exchanged for Oriental. There were forty-eight lines of magazines, each divided into twenty-one on each side, built of iron, brick, and plaster, to lessen the danger of fire; the fittings, however, being wood, the blaze would be tremendous in spite of all precautions. It was necessary to raise the soil upon which the Bazaar is erected about twenty feet, to avoid the inundations of the Volga, which at times is more like a sea, and carries with it, like the Nile, abundance and fertility. This place and establishment must have cost the Government an enormous sum, for not only has the ground been raised, but all the buildings are erected upon piles. Every house is made into an hotel more or less furnished. There are quantities of temporary shops, and six large buildings of tasty architecture employed as cafés and restaurations; after dinner we went to see a circus, where we were well

amused. An officer attended us. The Chief's daughters rode beautifully, and were very good-looking. One of the performers was admirable: he changed his coat and waistcoat, and became a soldier while galloping, then reeled like a drunken man whilst the horse continued full gallop without a bridle. I went to bed, but was so fearfully bitten I could not sleep a wink: I never was so devoured. The rain fell in torrents, and would have confined us to the house, but for the arcades which protected us effectually. The Governor sent a gentleman to escort us and do the honours of the place. Besides the accommodation which the Bazaar affords, multitudes bivouac, like the followers of an army, without order or organisation. We looked especially at the fine rivers. The Volga is as wide as the Thames at Westminster Bridge, and the Ocka somewhat wider than it is at Kingston. The junction of these two rivers seems to point out this spot as particularly adapted for commercial transactions, surrounded as it is by navigable waters, and I understand the selection of the place and the construction of the buildings leave nothing to desire. A few years ago the Fair was held at Macarëef, on the left bank of the Volga

and eighty versts lower down. We visited the rich shops, and the variety of the scene was quite indescribable. The Persian exhibits his splendid shawls, which cost from 400 to 40,000 roubles. Then the Siberian merchants of precious stones, but I did not see anything remarkable, or any fine pearls. The fur shops are wonderful. This extraordinary fair seems to exhibit, as in a masquerade, every civilised nation on the earth, each with the produce of his own country, from the *marchande de môdes* from Paris, to the merchant from Bagdad. We found ourselves in the midst of Kalmouks, and Kirghis who continue to be wandering tribes; but the day was too bad for us to see the horse fair, which belongs to this nomad race. We dined early and went to the ball. The Governor sent his carriage for us, and we paid his lady a visit before the assembly, a very agreeable English woman. I conducted her to the ball-room, which was magnificent, and led off the Polonaise with her. The ladies were neither handsome nor very genteel, though some were rather pretty, and danced the Mazourka (the Polish national dance) very well. At half-past twelve I reconducted the Governor's wife to her apartments,

and was not sorry to go to bed myself on a clean mattress stuffed with hay, which, with the smell of Russian leather, kept me free from the obnoxious visitors which disturbed my rest the previous night.

August 19th.—We paid Prince Wolkonsky and the Prince of Georgia visits, and then went to see the Russian fabriques of glass, silks, china, and cotton; the first very good; the second *magnificent*, especially those enriched with gold, of which even the peasants try to decorate the head, which they do by pinning it flat over the crown and forehead, leaving it to float over the shoulders and waist. The china was tolerable but dear, and the printed cottons very good, and nearly, I should think, the same price as ours, very good patterns about 15*d.* a yard. The quantities of these goods were quite astonishing, and I was told not an article would be left. I went to see the natives of Bokhara at dinner. They sat like tailors round their dish of rice and mutton, which they ate with their fingers, and this was really less disgusting than I should have expected. They each had a napkin and were particularly lavish in their use of water for washing,

yet to see their paws collecting their food was very strange. They contrived to put a large portion into their mouths without soiling their fine beards, which nevertheless they were constantly wiping. I sat down cross-legged among them, which, however, did not suit me; so, after asking a few questions, we bowed and retired. We then went to the chief Captain's caravan, who, it seems, is a considerable personage. His repast was not served, but I tasted some rice, the best I ever ate. The mutton-broth was weak but not bad, and we were invited to breakfast with this chief. He looked very well in his turban and black beard. We then passed on among Persians, Armenians, and Tartars, all offering us sweetmeats, and cramming our pockets. The Armenians are a striking-looking people, with black eyes, and fine tall figures, apparently a more active race than the others. I was highly amused at my morning's promenade amongst people so strange to Europeans. It was striking to observe the apathy of the Persians, and contrast it with the turbulent *empressement* of the Russians in commercial transactions. There is a repose and majesty in the former which is quite imposing.

We went to a great dinner at the Governor's. His spouse was very amiable and unaffected, and seemed very happy to welcome her countrymen. Her husband seemed to share her sentiments, and the dinner, of at least eighty covers, was most sumptuous, and a great variety of wines, and a fine dessert. After the repast, which lasted two hours, we strolled about the fair till eight o'clock, when a conjuror performed at the Governor's. He looked more like a studious philosopher than a man engaged in playing tricks of sleight of hand. At 9.30 we went to the opera, an establishment founded by Prince Shahoffskoi, and kept up by the Princess. He was, it seems, theatrically mad, but showed some wisdom in his madness, as the undertaking produces a good revenue. The troupe was composed of serfs, who were taught singing, dancing, etc., etc. We passed an entertaining evening in this temporary theatre, and the acting was above mediocrity, and the farce most amusing. Not the least remarkable thing was the effect produced by the performance upon a large audience composed principally of semi-barbarous people. After the theatre we went to a Traiteur's to see a group of Bohemian gypsies, men and women,

who danced and sang in the strange manner of their nation. It was very wild, and the effect of the illumination of four great establishments of this sort lying together was most brilliant, as they were prodigiously lighted up.

August 20th.—We went to the cathedral to see the tomb of Cosmo Minim, certainly one of the greatest citizens one reads of in history. I say the greatest, because from an obscure station (a butcher's) he liberated his country from Polish dominion, and gave himself, his sons, and all his fortune, which was immense, to his country, so that great results were achieved. He retired peaceably from the scene of his glory and died in his native place. Near his tomb is the fac-simile of the standard which roused the nation to arms, the original being deposited on Pojarsky's. There is a short inscription on the stone coffin. This just man's acts are not remembered as they deserve; and, except the statue erected to his memory at Moscow, I saw no trace of the nation's gratitude, which, for such eminent services, ought never to expire. Had his profession been military I should not have attached half the glory I do to his life.

The view from the Kremlin which we surveyed

was most extensive, the right bank of the Ocka elevated and picturesque; the junction of the rivers forms a fine feature, and the busy scene of the fair made a panorama which was unique. After contemplating this extraordinary view we descended the hill and returned to the fair by a new line, perhaps the most interesting and amusing of any. The first object of sale was a depôt of gloves for the working-class, ornamented with leather of various colours, in vast quantity; then we came to the mats, where they were piled up like hay-stacks, although already somewhat diminished by the sale which had been effected. We next saw the church-bell quarters, where immense numbers of all sizes were suspended. The noise was ridiculous, each monk selecting by the sound that which pleased his ear; hundreds of bells of all sizes were ringing at the same moment. Then we went to the horse fair, which was perhaps the most remarkable of all, for we suddenly came to a camp or bivouac of Kirghis and Kalmucs in the midst of their horses, which looked as wild as themselves, and the scene was perfectly Oriental. Their manner of exhibiting their animals was very curious. The moment one is pointed out the owner makes a signal to a serf who, with the rapidity of lightning,

holding in his hand a small cord with a sliding knot, throws it at the animal with astonishing address, and seldom misses catching him, though at full speed, by the neck. Then the horse is mounted and tried in any way one likes. These men were scarcely dressed, and with their flat noses and round heads strike a stranger very much.

From there we went to the tame horse fair, where the owners were very adroit in showing off their steeds. I walked through at least 2000, but scarcely saw a clever horse. These men sleep on the ground without any covering, and were scarcely removed from a state of nature, but they are a stout race. We next saw the iron market, which was surprising. It occupies a large range of the river bank, and in quantity, as an ignoramus, one would estimate a sufficiency for the consumption of years, whereas I was informed that the largest portion is only adequate to one year's demand from the interior. We then saw the carriage department; the price of the waggons and carriages was remarkable, two hundred roubles for a calèche without springs. Besides all this enormous mass of merchandise the two rivers were covered with boats of large burden, filled with goods and the produce of various countries.

It was amusing to see the women congregated in the neighbourhood of the milliners from Paris!

August 21st.—The directors conducted me to the soap quarters. Cazan is remarkable for this production, and its principal manufactory being in the hands of a prince, I selected his shop for my purchases. I bought a large box-full, with a print of his portrait. It was horridly dear, but he was a fine, respectable-looking old Tartar, and his son was very handsome; they both did the honours. Russia ought to be a clean country if judged by the quantity of soap I saw. We then proceeded to keep our engagement with my friend the Chief of the Boukhars, and after looking at some fine shawls, 4000 and 6000 roubles each, we sat down to our *déjeûner à la fourchette.* He and his associates squatted like tailors, others on their knees or sitting on their heels, which posture I was unable to imitate. They ate with their fingers, but provided us with the accustomed conveniences, as well as with champagne and Madeira. Their only dish, rice and mutton, was excellent. *They never drink anything but water.* After a hospitable reception from our bearded hosts, we took our leave and went into a stall where

peasants' costumes were preparing, and where the materials were sold. Seeing an old, bare-footed, dirty creature, buying some fine red silk damask, I inquired if it could be for herself, and as she was making a great fight with a tall bearded Russian to take off some of the price, my curiosity was still further excited, so my companion inquired of the old woman, who answered: "Yes, sir, I am old, and ugly, and toothless; nevertheless, I'll do my best to look young again." The battle then lasted some time longer, when the parties shook hands, and the vendor, before he cut off the quantity sold, went through the ceremony of crossing himself with astonishing rapidity. All business is suspended during the hours of Divine service.

We went to an evening party at the Governor's, about fifty ladies and one hundred gentlemen; we were so kindly pressed to stay another day, we were obliged to defer our departure.

August 22nd.—The view from the Cazan gate was magnificent. The reach of the Volga, which is visible for some miles, was very fine; we were told that at the season when the boats come up, the river is traceable for thirty or forty versts by

the whiteness of the sails. The country on the left bank of the Ocka, and both banks of the Volga, was perfectly flat. In the evening, after a last promenade through the Bazaar, where I bought some wonderful tea, we made our bow to the good Governor and his lady, and started the following morning.

August 23rd.—Attended by an officer sent by the Governor to escort us out of his Government, a courier or *Feld Jäger* having been sent on to prepare horses and prevent the possibility of any delay. Nothing could exceed the attention we received everywhere, as this personage awaited us at every stage, and after seeing us start, preceded us in time to make every necessary preparation. Our road at first, had it rained, would not have been passable for our great lumbering carriage, but, before the rain commenced, we had passed the worst part of the whole journey, and got on very well. We often saw the sails of the boats quite near, passing up and down the Volga, without seeing the river, its banks are so flat. We dined at an elevated spot where the traveller crosses in a ferry, and where the river is wider than the Thames at Westminster Bridge; still there is a great want of

animation, its waters scarcely seeming to flow, and the banks so flat and sandy that the river looks more like a lake. We crossed at Kimschna after a meagre dinner, which, however, a good appetite made palatable. The rain continued, and we travelled through the most wearisome uninteresting country for the rest of our journey. We crossed the Volga three times in boats; at Yaroslaw it is pretty. The town stands upon a high bank, and the river is wide. There is a large manufactory of linen and damask. I bought some specimens with a design of the town. We had a comfortable dinner, and then drove round the town in droschkys. There is a fine esplanade, or rather terrace, over the river two miles long, a very agreeable walk, though the trees were still young. The Governor was extremely civil to me, sent his carriage and an officer to attend me, and invited us to dinner; but we made our excuses, and took our leave. From there to Ladoga there was literally nothing to remark upon; and even the handsome churches disappeared. We followed the canal to Schlüsselbourg, by which the capital is supplied with wood and hay. It was filled with boats of immense size, which are slightly built to convey

their cargoes, and sold with them for fire-wood, the passage back against the strong currents being impracticable for such unwieldy machines. At Schlüsselbourg the canal falls into the Neva, close to the Ladoga Lake. We rowed to the fortress situated on an island, which is very interesting, as having been held by the Swedes, and taken by Peter the Great. The lake opens out grandly from these, indeed, looks like a sea, for the opposite shore is not visible. Ladoga, now no longer discernible as a town, was the birth-place of the first Czar Ruric. We pursued our course along the banks of the Neva, and reached St. Petersburg at five a.m. The river is wide and rapid; but the banks without interest, flat and marshy.

August 30th.—After a good rest I walked out to renew my impressions of this extraordinary capital. The moment the Grand Duke Michael heard of my arrival he sent and invited me to dinner, and received me in the kindest manner, expressing the most anxious hope that I had been pleased with my journey. He resides in a little cottage close to the glacis, the rooms very small, but his own fine palace is now nearly ready for his reception, and he observed after dinner:

"Mes chers amis, que ferais-je dans cet immense Palais, moi qui suis si content ici?" I never saw a more amiable or unaffected young man, and he spoke of England with such good feeling. At seven I took my leave, when H.I.H. again invited me to dinner.

September 1st.—Prepared for my departure and dined with the Grand Duke. He introduced me to his fine English bull-dog, who was curried and brushed like a horse, a magnificent animal. When I took my leave no members of my own family could have expressed more affection. He embraced me several times, and pressed me to return, saying that every one liked me, etc., etc.

September 2nd.—After a busy day I dined with Mrs. Disbrowe, and at nine took a Russian bath. I was stretched upon a bench high up in the steam, and a great fellow, with his hands filled with fine *new* shavings, prepared a soap lather with which he scrubbed me till I was quite sore. I was then plunged into a hot bath and pails of tepid water thrown over me; after fifteen minutes I got out and was then drenched with cold water, which ended the ceremony, no part of which was very agreeable.

September 3rd.—I find I omitted to mention the very pretty town of Kostroma on the Volga. This place is interesting as the spot where the Regency of Moscow, after the victories of Pojarski and Minim, sought their Emperor the young Michael Feodorowitch Romanoff, from whom sprang the present Imperial family by the female line.

I went over the Grand Duke Michael's magnificent new palace. The scaffolding was all removed and much of the furniture in place. I have never seen so much comfort and magnificence combined so successfully. Sixteen fine rooms are allotted to the ladies-in-waiting. The stables very fine, and arranged upon a new principle, worthy of imitation. I complimented the architect greatly who was called upon to furnish the plan in four days. On the Emperor's next birthday, the 1st (13th) of September O.S., he is to present this cadeau to his brothers, who will only have to walk in and take possession! It is furnished with the most minute details by the Emperor, plate, china, etc., etc.

Sunday, September 4th.—I took leave of Mr. and Mrs. Disbrowe and went to church. We started for Abo at three, bidding adieu, probably for ever,

to this most magnificent capital. Our journey was most prosperous, and in three days and nights we reached Abo, calling, *en passant*, on the Baron Nicolai at Wibourg, and upon the Baronne Klingström, half-way between Helsingfors and Abo. She is an Englishwoman married to a Swede, and her daughter married a Finland Count. They live at a very nice place, but the wind being fair I only delayed to sign my name as witness to some document required in England. The lady seemed to have forgotten her native tongue but retained all the tidiness of our character. She resided in a pretty garden house separated from her daughter's mansion, but close by.

Wednesday, September 7th.—We arrived at Abo at three o'clock, where I luckily found a packet which I engaged and pressed her sailing immediately ; that, however, was not possible, and I was obliged to content myself with the promise to sail at four a.m.

Having now completed my Russian journey it only remains for me to say something about the conveniences and *per contra* of travelling through that country. We never had to wait for horses, although at times we had twelve to our carriage,

six at wheel, three and three, the postilions riding the centre horses. A peasant always drives, and, as he is not always learned in that work, one's neck is sometimes in danger; however, we performed a journey of about 3000 English miles without the slightest accident. The stages were occasionally terribly long, the first out of St. Petersburg thirty-eight versts (about twenty-five miles), still the poor animals maintained their pace to the end, about ten versts an hour. The chief delay one meets with is in changing horses, which sometimes took an hour, and seldom less than three-quarters. The people are always ready, for they never seem to undress; during the warm weather they sleep outside the post-house, and were kicked up like any other animal. Indeed, in the houses the peasants did not appear to have beds; in the winter the family sleep on the stove, and often as we passed we saw the children baking upon them. I seldom perceived a drunken man, and never one excited like the inhabitants of some southern climes. The houses were very comfortable, all of wood, with extensive sheds for the cattle. I observed but little garden ground, and even potatoes not extensively cultivated. They make a kind of gruel from fresh

wheat, which with their black rye bread seemed their usual food. Meat is interdicted half the year. I scarcely saw a peasant woman in shoes; the men mostly wore boots. The inns generally were execrable; we always preferred our carriage, and we scarcely got a meal at any inn during the journey. We carried some few things with us, which with eggs and potatoes sufficed. The tea everywhere was delicious, and that formed our principal repast. From St. Petersburg to Abo, 500 English miles, we ate no animal food. The roads everywhere were six times as wide as those in other countries, planted with two rows of birch on each side; but materials for making them are not forthcoming, therefore they are only shaped out, and when it rains one literally has to plough deep into the soil and get along with difficulty. For dry weather they are delightful. The peasant coachman sings to encourage his horses, promises them all sorts of good things, rouses their *amour propre*, saying: "You are bound to draw the strangers through the sand; when you get in I'll comb your hair, give you to drink, and some bread to eat." Thus he converses with his poor beasts the whole of the way. The music is always in the minor key, and

the composition does not employ above five notes. The horn music was most remarkable ; twenty-eight men played, and each only *one note.* I heard these execute several difficult airs from the " Freyschütz," with astonishing precision. Each performer had his part before him, and perhaps in a whole piece did not sound his note half-a-dozen times. I never was so surprised, and the general effect resembled an organ.

CHAPTER XIII.

Dinner at the Prince Royal's—Unexpected Arrival of Russian Minister at Christiania—Destruction of Theatre by Fire—Mr. St. George's Departure—Long Conversation with the King—College of Carlberg—Death of the Emperor Alexander of Russia—Christmas Gambols.

September 7th.—Went on board at three a.m., and hurried the Captain, who wanted to delay sailing; however, we got off at five and had a fair wind to the mouth of the gulf, where the stupid fellow would anchor, and thus lost some hours. At three I roused the crew, we got under weigh, and reached the Swedish coast at eight, and proceeded very well till about twelve, when it fell calm, and we remained almost stationary till two next morning, when a foul wind came on which delayed us cruelly. Had I been able to persuade the Captain to cross the gulf in the night, we should have carried a fair wind to Stockholm, and probably made the quickest passage on record. However, we arrived all right

at last, and I found myself, as it were, at home again, delighted to be in my own clean and comfortable domicile.

September 12th.—I was grieved to learn the death of Colonel Montgomery, from whom I had always experienced the greatest hospitality. He will be an irreparable loss to his family and the society of Stockholm; he was quite a young man. I dined at the Prince Royal's who overwhelmed me with kindness, and I was a long time closeted with H.R.H. The Crown Princess had commissioned me to purchase a heron's feather for her, with which she was much pleased, and I was warmly welcomed back by all the court as an old friend. The Crown Prince is now at the head of the regency, and has shown a calm and decision beyond his years and experience, during the King's absence.

DESPATCH.

"*September* 24, 1825.

"SIR,

"Monsieur de Schulzenheim summoned me yesterday to the Cabinet, and communicated the following very interesting particulars.

"Count Wetterstedt on learning from Monsieur

de Schulzenheim the contents of the Russian menacing despatch (mentioned in my No. 26), went immediately to the King at Christiania, without even waiting twenty-four hours as Monsieur de Schulzenheim proposed, for the purpose of conferring with the Prince Royal, and arrived at Christiania before the Russian Ministers.

"A Swedish courier was then sent from Christiania to meet the Russian Minister on the road, with an intimation from the Chief Secretary of the Cabinet that H.M. had determined on not receiving General Suchtelen in his quality of Minister, or bearer of such communication; but, notwithstanding this dignified step on the part of H.M., Count Suchtelen thought proper to continue his journey.

"On his arrival at Christiania he sent to Count Wetterstedt his Councillor of Legation, Monsieur de Bodisco, to say that his chief, with the utmost respect for H.M.'s decision, had thought it best under all the circumstances to continue his route. Monsieur de Bodisco then produced a paper as containing the purport of what Count Suchtelen had to say, and requested Count Wetterstedt to hear it read, which His Excellence refused, saying: 'Mons. Bodisco, remettez ce papier-là dans votre poche, je ne peux

pas en entendre la lecture ; ma mémoire, j'espère, est assez bonne que je puisse rapporter au Roi tout ce que vous voulez me dire, mais Sa Majesté trouve que la communication qu'on a à faire n'est pas propre a lui être faite directement comme désire le Général Suchtelen, mais d'une nature à traiter entre ministre et ministre, et comme telle, c'est sa détermination qu'elle sera traitée, et le Roi persiste à ne pas recevoir le Général de la manière qu'il propose. Comme un ancien compagnon d'armes, et où la considération que réclament et ont toujours réclamé les qualités personnelles de votre chef, S.M. n'a aucune objection de le voir comme particulier, mais non sur l'affaire en question.' Mons. Bodisco then said that the papers only stated the impossibility of the Emperor acceding to the King's proposition concerning Indemnification, etc., and his hopes that on fully reconsidering the question, H.M. would concur with his friend and ally in the view he took of the question, thus softening, if not altogether omitting, any expression of a menacing tendency. On the Count's remarking to Mons. Bodisco the wide difference between his actual communication and the harshly menacing tone of the despatch, Mons. Bodisco declared (strange

to say) that the despatch was shown purely in confidence to M. de Schulzenheim without the intention of attaching to it any official import, and that those expressions which might have given offence had probably resulted from the hurry of the moment; but the plea of hurry coincided ill with the delay at St. Petersburgh of nearly five weeks, and Count Wetterstedt noticed to Mons. Bodisco the impossibility of supposing that such a communication could, when made to the Foreign Minister *ad interim* of the Crowned Head therein mentioned, be deemed confidential.

"Count Wetterstedt then informed Mons. Bodisco that he would report to the King how the affair stood, and afterwards communicate with the Russian Mission.

"I ought also to mention that Mons. Bodisco informed Count Wetterstedt that his chief was instructed to confer with the King, whereas Mons. Bodisco asserted to me the direct contrary before his departure for Christiania. That gentleman also said to the Count that none of the mission had seen the Russian despatch, whereas, it is ascertained that it was communicated to the Danish Minister and the Spanish Chargé d'Affaires.

"I was again summoned to the Cabinet to-day, and to the Council-room of the Prince Royal, who graciously placed before me the latest despatches from Christiania; from those documents I learned in addition to what I have already stated, that, the King's pleasure having been taken, the Russian Minister was immediately asked to dine with H.M., but in his sole individual capacity, and that at the audience granted to him before dinner, H.M., in reply to Count Suchtelen's protestations of the deepest respect, said: 'Mon Général, je connais vos sentimens pour moi et la conciliation qui vous a toujours distinguée; aussi je sais que vous venez du pays d'un ami que j'aime et que je respecte, mais il ne faut pas aborder un sujet qui n'est propre à traiter qu'entre ministre et ministre.'

"These words were, however, insufficient to prevent the Russian Minister from attempting more than once in the course of the evening, to revert gradually to the subject, and he went so far as to express his hope to the King that H.M. would give him some sort of engagement to rescind the contract for the sale of the ships. H.M., however, adhered to his determination not to

discuss this point. In two subsequent interviews with Count Wetterstedt, the Russian Minister urged with as little success the engagement above mentioned with the question, 'How shall I answer my colleagues,' which had ill agreed with his assertion that previous to leaving Stockholm he had not communicated his despatch to any of them. And he even requested Count Wetterstedt to sign a paper promising 'la résiliation de la vente,' or to stipulate before a witness that the ships should not be sold in order that General Suchtelen might communicate the fact to Monsieur Pozzo di Borgo at Paris as well as to Count Nesselrode at St. Petersburg, but the Count refused to do so. Count Suchtelen in consequence left Christiania." *

September 26th.—Rode out to Ulrichsdall, to dine with General Suchtelen, and went on to Stäke, by moonlight, after a very agreeable dinner, where we spent a pleasant evening and slept.

September 27th.—John Bloomfield and I started immediately after breakfast on horseback, to pay

* This curious despatch refers to the sale of some ships of war destined for South American service on condition that Spain, Russia, or any of the Allied Powers would engage to indemnify Sweden for the *faux frais* of equipment.

General and Madame Björnstierna a visit three miles' distance. Got there for lunch, and nothing could surpass our hospitable reception, or the regret expressed at the shortness of our visit. The day was very fine, and the place, on the banks of a narrow part of the Lake Mählen, very pretty indeed. The autumnal tints added to the varied beauty of the scene. We got home at half-past two after a forty mile ride, and I was never better carried than by my £8 mare! The Swedes cannot understand people riding for pleasure, but such a distance does astonish them! They will probably say that "*le ministre d'Angleterre est certainement fou!*"

September 28th.—We rode to Ulrichsdall, where we were to dine with General Suchtelen. After luncheon we walked to see the Swedish arsenal, and the old dresses of the kings, Gustavus Adolphus and others of historical interest; but the collection was in the utmost disorder and neglect. We saw Charles XII.'s coronation state harness, which surprised me by its magnificence. It was richly embroidered in gold upon velvet for twelve horses. The traces were of velvet.

October 3rd.—Breakfasted at half-past five, and embarked on board the steamboat to pay our

promised visit to General Björnstierna on Lake Mählen. The boat was very full indeed, and the day being very fine, nothing could be more interesting than the scenery. There was an excellent restaurant on board, but we did not partake of his good food, as we were to dine at the General's at half-past two. Our approach was announced by a little battery on board, and answered by the General's. A boat was quickly alongside covered with oak leaves, and we were warmly welcomed. The place is particularly bright, and the pleasure-grounds, shade, rock, wood, and water, charming. The Akertjelms came to dinner, and we had a most agreeable day. In the evening we walked to the farm and looked at the stock.

October 4th.—The day most beautiful. After walking about, we crossed the ferry and rode to the ancient capital of Sweden, Upsala, now but a village. There are fine ruins of the time of Catholic splendour, and as a fair was being held, the peasants had collected in large numbers, looking so clean and tidy. The atmosphere was exquisitely clear, and the view of the lake, which expands opposite the old town, magnificent. Opposite the General's the lake narrows, and is

more like a river, the banks varied in rock, forest, meadow, and corn land, sprinkled with cottages and farm buildings.

October 5th.—We returned home by the boat about seven.

October 10th.—I dined with the Crown Prince, and nothing could exceed his kindness. After dinner, H.R.H. took me to his room, and expressed, on his own part and the King's, the gratitude they felt for the advice I had given, and the exertions I had made in the very embarrassing case, which they hoped was now in a fair way of settlement through my means.

October 13th.—Paid some visits, and saw Admiral Baker, who married a Swede. Their eldest daughter, who is only fourteen years old, is already engaged to be married! What a crime to engage a child of that age to enter into the holy state of matrimony! She is very good-looking, and the young Englishman a nice young man.

October 22nd.—Baron Schimmelpenninck came to announce his marriage with Madlle. de Kantzow, which is an excellent arrangement.

October 26th.—I went to see the pictures that are being painted for me; they will perpetuate

pleasing recollections of this period of my eventful life. One is to represent the cottage in which the great Gustavus lay concealed for four days.

EXTRACTS FROM DESPATCHES, ETC.

"1825.

"SIR,

"I cannot in adequately strong terms convey to you the deep sense expressed to myself by the King of the effective consideration which you have given to Sweden's interest and honour, both of which are virtually involved in this question. The wisdom of your counsels are best appreciated by their immediate adoption, and it is my duty to add that it is impossible to feel more strongly than do the King and Count Wetterstedt your attention and the time you have bestowed upon them."

"*November* 18.

"SIR,

"I duly received your No. enclosing a translation of the Treaty between H.I.M. and His Most Faithful Majesty concerning the negotiation of the Empire of the Brazils.

"Propositions have lately been made from this Cabinet to that of Copenhagen for the purpose of a more intimate commercial relation between

Sweden, Norway, and Denmark, founded upon the principles of reciprocity, and in the enjoyment in the ports of each other of the privileges of the most favoured nations. This Government is anxiously desirous that these privileges should extend, *outre mer*, for the purpose of affording assistance to the iron masters and timber dealers who, in consequence of the absence of orders from England (the effect of the late and continued mercantile distress there) are labouring under great pecuniary difficulty.

"The States of Sweden at the close of the Diet always place at the disposal of the Government two credits on the bank, one called the great and the other the little credit, both, however, available only in cases of extraordinary emergency and between the sittings of the Diet. The great credit for a million of dollars banco (about £80,000) can only be drawn forth in the event of measures of national defence being necessary; but the little credit of half a million of dollars banco (about £40,000) may be employed for such public purposes as the Government may deem expedient. The present commercial distresses have decided the Government to act upon their respon-

sibility and to draw from the Treasury 250,000 dollars banco (about £20,000) to be distributed by the before-named Commissioners, Mr. Norens and Mr. Myhrenau, in advances upon goods according to the exigencies of the trading interests, which extension experiences some difficulty on the part of Denmark, the parties engaging to repay one half of the money so advanced in six months and the remaining half within the year, or sooner at the option of the parties borrowing. These advances to bear an interest of £5 per cent. per annum, being one per cent. less than the legal interest of the country."

March 31*st.*—The annual fair of Carlstadt, which influences much the leading exports of iron and wood from this country, is closed.

The Commissioners named in my No. 10, who were sent thither by the Government, however trifling the sum with which they were charged, were enabled to support the sinking credit and save from embarrassment many most respectable proprietors of mines and woods in the western districts of Sweden, whose failure would have operated far and wide in a country of such limited resources.

The contract price paid for iron at this fair generally fixes that for the year throughout Sweden; but on the present occasion, owing to a scarcity of money, no positive rate could be agreed.

DIARY.

November 24th.—The Ugglasses and their children dined with me. I had ten little folks, and never saw such well-behaved children. In the evening I went to the Circle at Court, at the beginning of which an awfully grand fire broke out in the little theatre just opposite the Royal apartments in which we all were. I never saw so fine a sight, if one could divest oneself of the sense of danger and loss. They say that only three lives have been lost. It appeared at the second entr'acte, when one of the performers came on the stage and announced that the theatre was on fire, but that there was no danger, and advised the spectators to leave the house without loss of time, cautioning the audience not to precipitate itself with too great a press. The audience retired without inconvenience. The building was near the water, on the right of the square opposite the Palace, and as one looks from the Palace there are four cupolas; fortunately the house was isolated, so that it alone burned. Mr.

Kennedy, who came in the night, said that the fire gave light to the distance of five Swedish miles; there was not the slightest shade anywhere to be found. The Court broke up of course, and I was glad to get home.

November 25th.—The Princess Royal's pregnancy has been personally announced to me. The usual paper on this joyful occasion is ordered to be read in all the churches on Sunday next. The circumstance has been hailed by the nation as well as by their Majesties as an event of the highest importance, and as far as my observation goes a source of infinite joy to the public.

March 27th.—Upon the occasion of Mr. St. George's audience of departure on the 6th inst., H.M. was graciously pleased to invite me to dinner, previously conversing with me at considerable length on a closer commercial relation with the New S.A. State, as well as other matters. H.M. said: "Mon Général, je vous dois toute ma confiance, et je ne saurais m'abstenir de réitérer mon désir de me ranger sur la même ligne que votre auguste maître et votre Gouvernement en autant qu'un petit pays le peut dans ses relations avec la plus grande nation de l'univers. Ainsi

c'est mon désir de faire mon possible pour que mes liens se resserrent de plus en plus. Quand je fus appelé a régir la Suède vous m'avez pris par la main, vous m'avez protégé, vous avez eu de la confiance en moi lorsque Bonaparte voulait s'emparer de la Suède, et la forcer à adopter une politique également contraire à ses intérêts et a ses volontés. J'espère que je ne me suis pas montré indigne des sentimens qui ont guidés les conseils de l'Angleterre, et que j'ai rempli mes engagements avec Elle. En mes relations avec vous toutes les grâces venaient de votre côté, tandis qu'avec mes relations avec l'Empereur (de Russie) les services rendus ont été du mien." H.M. thereby pointing no doubt at the release to which he had consented of the Finland Corps, in order that it might join Count Wittgenstein in the Campaign of 1812.

H.M. then continued: "Il faut pour mon Honneur et mon Indépendance que je brise les chaînes que la Russie a voulu me forger, en même temps je suis sensible que les fléaux les plus terribles qui puissent affliger mon pays sont la famine, la peste, et la guerre, et que les devoirs les plus sacrés d'un Régent c'est de les prévenir; ainsi mon but sera de me retirer avec le moindre éclat possible

de cette intimité personnelle avec l'Empereur qui s'ensuivoit naturellement de la longue guerre qui embrasait l'Europe, et qui me mit si souvent en relation de frère d'armes avec S.M.I. J'essairai d'oublier complettement l'affaire des vaisseaux, mais il est essentiel tant aux intérêts de mes sujets qu'à ma propre dignité et à mon indépendance que j'établisse avec le temps des relations commerciales avec les nouveaux états de l'Amérique pour au moins montrer à l'Europe, surtout après ce qui vient d'arriver, que je ne suis pas sous la dictée de la Russie.

"Voici, mon Général, mes sentimens sur ma position actuelle, mais en même temps je vous assure que je ne prendrai aucune démarche sans les sages conseils de l'Angleterre, dont la franchise et la fermeté donnent la meilleure garantie pour le bonheur de ces pays qui sont assez heureux de se trouver en alliance avec Elle. Cependant, mon Général, pour revenir à l'affaire des vaisseaux, elle n'est pas sans son bon côté, car si l'Empereur de Russie avait accepté ma proposition sur les faux frais, je suis prêt à avouer que cela auroit été pour moi et pour mon pays le plus grand malheur qui eut pu nous arriver, tandis que toutes les

circonstances qui se sont ensuivies de cette affaire m'ont ouvert les yeux sur ma véritable position et sur le vasselage où mon voisin désire me plonger." *

In the whole of this lengthened conversation H.M. evidently laboured under a painful sense of the offensiveness of the Russian Despatch, but nevertheless did not allow himself to be hurried beyond that wise moderation which your communications inculcate.

November 18th.—Colonel Metcherzsky, who conveyed to St. Petersburg the report of the Russian

* "General, I owe you all my confidence, and I cannot abstain from reiterating my desire to place myself on the same line as your august master and your Government, as much as a small country can do so in its relations with the greatest nation of the world. Therefore it is my desire to do my utmost to strengthen our bands more and more. When I was called upon to reign in Sweden, you took me by the hand, you protected me, you had confidence in me, when Buonaparte wished to take possession of Sweden and force her to adopt a policy equally contrary to her interests and her wishes. I trust that I did not show myself unworthy of the sentiments which directed the counsels of England, and that I fulfilled my engagements with her. In my relations with you all the favours were on your side, whilst, with my relations with the Emperor of Russia, the services rendered were on mine. . . .

"It is necessary for my honour and independence that I should break the chains that Russia desires to forge for me; at the same time I am quite aware that the most terrible scourges

Minister's reception at Christiana, is shortly expected here, and should he bring a renewal of the Emperor's pretensions to guide the determination of the King concerning the new South American States, I have strong reason to think that H.M. will feel himself called upon to profit by that

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which could afflict my country are famine, pestilence, and war, and that the most sacred duty of a King is to avoid them; therefore it will be my aim to retire with the least *éclat* possible from that personal intimacy with the Emperor, which was the natural result of the great war which put Europe in a blaze and placed me so often in fraternal relationship with H.I.M.

"I shall endeavour to forget entirely the affair of the ships of war; but it is essential, as much in the interests of my subjects, as it is for my own dignity and independence that I should in time establish commercial relations with the new States of America, to show Europe, especially after what has occurred, that I am not under the dictation of Russia.

"These, General, are my sentiments with regard to my position at this moment; but at the same time I can assure you that I shall take no steps without the wise advice of England, whose frankness and firmness is the best guarantee for the welfare of those countries who are fortunate enough to be allied to her. Still, General, to return to the question of the ships. It is not without its good side, for had the Emperor of Russia acceded to my proposition as to the expenses which are not allowed in the account, I am ready to confess that it would have been for me and for my country the greatest misfortune which could have happened, instead of which all the circumstances arising from that affair have opened my eyes as to my true position, and the vassalage into which my neighbour desired to plunge me."

moment for re-explaining most fully Count Wetterstedt's Despatch of February last, and declaring himself free to act on that question whenever the interests of his subjects may demand it, without appeal for permission to any other Powers, taking care always to keep his engagements to communicate, before taking that step.

December 4th.—I received a young officer who had insulted my coachman, and was shocked to find that by the laws of Sweden, had I prosecuted him, and established the fact of his having drawn his sword within the precincts of the Palace, his life would have been forfeited. The King and Prince were both horrified, and my correspondence has been highly satisfactory to me.

December 7th.—I dined with Minister Krabbe at three, and went to inspect the Military College of Carlberg, and was highly gratified. The school consists of one hundred and twenty cadets, thirty of whom are supported at the expense of the State, and are selected from the families of wounded and distinguished officers of limited income. The other scholars are paid for by their parents but educated at the public expense, about £25 per annum. This feeds and clothes them, in short, pays

everything. Their lodgings were very nice, their meals excellent, and their system of instruction practically good. The mind entirely directed to the profession for which they are destined. Young boys of fourteen traced the marches of Hannibal and Cæsar and all their great battles as if they had actually fought in them. They were quite familiar with the formation of the world, and were instructed as well in the service as in the practice of everything relating to military service. They also learnt French, English, and German. We finished by witnessing feats of gymnastic, which is very much followed upon the Continent, and which I consider a most useful branch of education. The increase of muscular power from exercising the body is wonderful, and the performances I saw were astonishing. The boys were as active as monkeys, and it is certified by medical men how much the chest is enlarged by this exercise. The ladies in Sweden take lessons in this accomplishment. The college was formerly a palace and is well situated upon an inlet of the Mählen, with fine gardens.

Saturday, December 17th.—I called on the Russian Minister, General Count Suchtelen, and found all the mission in deep mourning for the

death of the Emperor Alexander, and in full uniform, at the moment of swearing allegiance to the Emperor Nicholas who ascended the throne, but not without blood shedding; my friend, a very distinguished Russian General, Miloradowitch, of St. Petersburg, was among the slain.

Friday, December 23rd.—I went to Madame Baker's to assist at the Christmas gambols *de famille.* I certainly think that the ancient practice of assembling families at this season is very desirable. The scene was one of complete happiness for all ages, the old giving to the young, the young giving their little trinkets to the old. There were 450 *cadeaux* circulated in the company of this evening, each wrapped up and sealed, and addressed sometimes with appropriate droll lines, and amongst them some amusing tricks. A large *pâté* was addressed to the *Ministre a'Angleterre,* under cover, and franked by George Canning. When I displaced the top I found the contents a beautiful ornament, in turquoise, from the "promise" Mdlle. Baker. Amongst the presents are things useful as well as ornamental, such as to a young man—a piece of cloth to make a coat, a hat, and such things. But it was delightful to witness the joy

and happiness of the whole party. The old lady, Countess Ruth, enjoyed her share of *cadeaux* as much as the children did their toys. The ceremony of distribution lasted at least two hours and a half.

Saturday, December 24th.—We all passed the evening at Mad. Montgomery's, and carried our little offering of Christmas-boxes to the children. They make very funny toys here, and tricks that are very witty. The recollection of the last year, when the poor father of the little creatures still lived, prevented my quite enjoying the evening. Indeed, all the grown-up persons of the party were sensible to this change; but I suppose the little innocent children were naturally the chief objects, and therefore we were invited.

CHAPTER XIV.

Court Receptions—Privileges accorded to British Trade—Society at Stockholm—Narrow Escape of Lord Bloomfield while Riding—Birth of the Crown Prince's Son and Heir—Christening—Picnic to Gripsholm—Dinner with the King at Haya—Military Manœuvres—Despatches—Lord Bloomfield goes Home on Leave.

January 7th, 1826.—I had an audience to present Mr. Knollys. H.M. received me most graciously, and kept me *tête-à-tête* for an hour and a quarter. His conversation was full of interest upon the affairs of Europe, and he evidently considered himself more secure, and his country free from apprehension. The King had most remarkable tact in his address to foreigners, always agreeable, and had a great command of language. After the audience he detained me a moment to invite me to dinner. He named Monday when I had invited a party to celebrate the marriage of Mdlle. de Kantzow to Monsieur Schimmelpenninck. The King observing

that I bowed, said that if I had an engagement I was to tell him; when I confessed my embarrassment, he immediately named Tuesday, saying: "C'est remettre le plaisir de vous voir, c'est ce que je n'aime pas, mais——"

In the evening I went to the Gala Theatre. Their Majesties were there, and sat in the front of the household box which occupies the space usually allotted to the amphitheatre. It was very fine, and the directeur had brought out a new piece; music by Spohr. Decorations and dresses all new, and the scene, I believe, in the Brazils. His Majesty was very well received, and the National Air was sung with enthusiasm; at ten all was over, and we got away conveniently enough notwithstanding the immense Royal Cortége.

Saturday, January 28th.—I dressed in full uniform, collars, etc., to assist at the Palace for the King's Fête. There was a great display of fireworks and a splendid ball. Her Majesty called me to the window which was prepared for the Royal Family, from where we saw everything admirably. This part of the performance lasted half-an-hour, when dancing began. The apartment for dancing was newly decorated and very hand-

some; it was partly lighted with cut-glass columns which had a beautiful effect, the columns were composed of strings of cut glass as in lustres, so that the lamps from within gave a most brilliant light. The Princess looked very well *en cheveux frisés*, which became her greatly.

Sunday, January 29th.—In the evening I went with the Suchtelens to Mad. Montgomery's, where we had some delightful music; never in my life have I heard so sweet a voice or such exquisite taste; she sang in six languages, each with the facility and perfection as if her own.

Tuesday, January 31st.—I walked out at one. Nothing can be so miserable as the walking, the snow is loose and very deep, passing over our goloshes, the fatigue equal to a finely pulverised ploughed field.

Wednesday, February 1st.—Met on business at the Cabinet. Walked out at twelve; was received at M. de Wetterstedt's, and had a long and interesting conversation upon the relative position of the two countries and late events in Russia. He is a most delightful man to talk with.

February 4th.—I was yesterday summoned to the Cabinet, and have great satisfaction in inform-

ing you that the King and Count Wetterstedt adopted, without hesitation, the desire expressed by Mr. Huskisson that in the new commercial relations about to be established between the two countries an additional article should be introduced by which certain privileges were to be exclusively afforded to British trade. Count Wetterstedt further added that he conformed to Mr. Huskisson's opinion, and proposed that the said article should form an integral part of the Treaty. The Count observed that the Bourgeoisie would certainly complain, and at the meeting of the Diet that order would no doubt create a very great cry against the article; he, however, would be prepared to satisfy the Committee that Sweden's best interests were consulted by the adoption of whatever tended to improve its relations with Great Britain, and he hoped successfully to do this upon the broad principles of general commerce, notwithstanding there might be a partial pressure in some of its details.

With regard to a projected loan Count Wetterstedt asked my opinion, in the King's name, if by possibility such a communication could be interpreted as a departure from that delicacy and respect which he trusted would ever characterise the politics

of this Government; they were quite aware that upon the practicability of the scheme I was unlikely to be able to afford them any positive information, but that His Majesty and himself relied confidently on my good offices that the British Government should understand the principle upon which the resolution was taken, and which was the unlimited confidence of a little country in the most powerful and greatest Government in the world. I replied that H.M. and himself did me no more than justice in being persuaded that I should bring the subjects simply and fairly before you, that I was unable to afford any information about the difficulties that might oppose themselves to the objects which they had in view; but I unhesitatingly assured them that you would receive the communication with that good will towards Sweden, and desire to befriend it, which you had so eminently manifested upon all occasions. The Count then enumerated the infinite favours which Sweden had received at your hands, and particularly dwelt upon the unhappy period when it was forced into the adoption of the Continental System, notwithstanding which its flag was not only unmolested but protected by Great Britain.

In the evening I visited the venerable old Field Marshal Stedinck, who has been very ill. I never beheld so fine an old man ; he sleeps always on a leather sofa, as if campaigning, and he is in his eightieth year, without any of those infirmities belonging usually to that great age, with the gaiety of a young man. He has seen a great deal of the world, has filled the highest stations, and in times of great difficulty, which render him peculiarly interesting. His memory was very extraordinary, and his power of narrating events and anecdotes remarkable.

February 20th.—I called on Marshal Stedinck to congratulate him on his appointment to Russia. What a fine old man of eighty! Should he be well enough to assist at the coronation of the Emperor Nicholas, he will be the third Emperor he has seen crowned besides attending Nicholas's baptism.

I dined at the French Minister's, who held forth upon the impossibility of possessing a brilliant imagination without memory. General Suchtelen opposed this thesis which the Frenchman certainly supported with much ingenuity ; but the old general reminded me of Thurlow who used

to say of Lord Loughborough in the House of Lords, "I used to give him a thump and the dog held his peace." La belle France was not so easily silenced, and we rose from table each keeping his own opinion unweakened by that of his opponent. I finished my evening at Baron Ritterstolpe's, where there was a great party, but a Swedish *soirée* is not the gayest, for the ladies all collect together and the gentlemen likewise, and were it not for us foreigners this system would scarcely ever be broken in upon.

Saturday, February 25th.—We had a grand concert at the Count Tarrach's, where a large party assembled; the concert finished with Haydn's "Children's Symphony," which was very curious indeed, all the instruments of children's rattles, cuckoos, etc., etc., which the author contrived to harmonise with fiddles, etc., with extraordinary ingenuity. I continue to be astonished at their dexterity in serving supper; pianoforte, and all instruments removed, and supper arranged in their place in a quarter of an hour.

Tuesday, February 28th.—Dressed for Madame de Geer's ball. J. B. was the only young diplomat invited, very complimentary. The Royal Family

and Court were there, and quite select. It was very agreeable; they fitted up a room for the Royal supper table in pink and white muslin like a tent, it was very pretty indeed. After supper the King seated me near him for an hour, and held a most interesting conversation with me upon the state of Russia and of Europe. The Queen thought we stayed too long, and scolded me for always enticing His Majesty from the ladies; she was very funny. I observed that as to myself, whom Her Majesty condescended to include in the observation, I had been long on the shelf. She was very good-humoured, and was exceedingly droll.

Thursday, March 2nd.—Dined at Court, where J. B. and myself were welcomed with great favour and condescension. Dined latish; sat next Her Majesty, who was very agreeable and laughed outright several times. After dinner the King came and sat next to me, and kept me in conversation for upwards of an hour. He is always instructive and interesting; our subject was the general state of Europe. He dwelt with particular intelligence upon the embarrassed state of our finances.

Sunday, March 12th.—Took a long ride with J. B. We looked at the place of execution, and

saw the remains of a poor wretch that was beheaded last spring. The skull nailed on a post, and the body, still entire, on a sort of platform close by—a horrible spectacle! The country was pretty, and the roads excellent.

March 17th.—Two persons in the confidence of the Government are to proceed to the great annual Fair of Carlstadt. The highest price offered per ton for ships was seventeen dollars banco (about £10 10*s.*), whereas the sellers stood out for nineteen, and even twenty dollars banco, as obtained last year, being from £11 15*s.* to £12 per ton, a difference that would bear heavily on this staple export.

In wood no business whatever was done. Indeed this article seems exposed to a most alarming depression for the present year, which cannot fail to operate in a double ratio both in Sweden and Norway, inasmuch as a failure of employment for shipping, in which so large a capital of both countries is invested, must be the inevitable consequence of this state of things.

Monday, April 3rd.—Walked to Mr. Falkrantz to see my Swedish landscapes; they promise to be very good and very interesting—they are

of Ornese (the cottage in which Gustave Vasa concealed himself from the Danes), of Gripsholm, the old country palace (where Kings Eric and John were confined, and also the ex-king, for twenty-four hours), and Trölhella, the famous Falls near Gothebourg. From thence I went to the Cabinet, where I had a most interesting conference with Count Wetterstedt.

Tuesday, April 4th.—I walked with Count Adolph Rosen to see the churches and some of the ancient parts of the town which I had not yet seen. We first went to Frederick's church, which is a fine roomy place of worship and very simple; the altar-piece is by the famous Sergel, our Saviour's ascension, a very fine work of art. There is also a fine work of his to commemorate the life of a man who had made some useful discoveries; the figure is Genius uncovering the Globe; the whole is very striking. From thence we passed some of the oldest parts, the traditions of which are of no interest. We then went into the Riddersholm church, where are deposited the remains of the great kings of Sweden, as well as the distinguished generals and statesmen of past times. The Charles' with all their trophies are here, the Gustaves

with theirs, with which the church is well filled; to be sure what a card this little country played in former times. In Mary's church there is nothing remarkable save its history. In the time of Gustave I., when the town was attacked and nearly taken by the Danes, some bold and determined Swedes shut themselves up in this church, and after sustaining themselves for some time, made a successful sally, cut the attacking party off, which was followed by a panic, and the town was saved. For this signal service, Gustave issued an ordinance that the parish should for ever be exempt from all taxes, save those purely parochial, which exemption they enjoy to this day. There is a shot still sticking in the corner of a wall, now filled up with houses.

Wednesday, April 5th.—I walked to the Count Wetterstedt's to show him the Duke of Wellington's letter, which he begged to show the King. It was highly gratifying to both the King and the Prince, who would have been delighted to have received him; indeed, his Majesty had privately prepared the palace of the Grand Governor for his accommodation. His Grace's letter is very flattering and kind to myself.

Thursday, April 6th.—The Count de Platen called, and we had a most interesting conversation together. He has promised me a *marche-route* for our guidance, which will be the best *itinéraire de voyage* I could procure. He is one, if not the most enlightened man in Sweden.

April 7th.—During a great ball at Madame Ugglass's a fire broke out at a sugar manufactory which, being situated in the fashionable quarter, spread great alarm. It being the custom that the King and Prince should be present on such occasions, all the officers went away from the ball, therefore the ladies were left without any partners except the Corps Diplomatique.

April 8th.—I repaired to Marienberg to assist at an examination of young officers of artillery where the Prince Royal presided. He placed me on his right hand, and although I did not understand the language well, I was much interested in the course pursued by the professors, which H.R.H. explained to me. The young men were a fine lot. The Prince read a long address approving of the manner in which they had acquitted themselves.

April 15th.—I have the honour to acknowledge your copy of the Convention of Commerce and

Navigation between Great Britain and Sweden, which was signed in London on the 18th of March. A Committee has been sitting some time to revise the import tariff; amongst articles not before admitted are rum, Cognac brandy (direct from France); porter, ale, and other malt liquors; raw copper orès of all sorts in their unwrought state, brass, wrought and unwrought, bronze, and pinchbeck; coloured cotton and linen thread; silk, cotton, and mixed shawls; handkerchiefs of various descriptions, exceeding fifteen dollars in value, and some other goods of our manufacture.

Cottons, calicoes, and cambrics, plain as well as printed, remain amongst the prohibitions, as also cutlery, refined sugar (except crushed lumps), woollen cloths with a few exceptions when mixed with silk and cotton.

The duties on Colonial Produce, viz.: raw sugar, coffee, cocoa, indigo, etc., are, with a trifling diminution on coffee, the same, but by the Treaty now concluded we shall be allowed to supply Sweden with the productions of our Colonies at the same duties as paid by Swedish ships on importation of the like articles from the Brazils, viz., at a reduction of one-third of the duty otherwise levied,

an advantage which I consider as capable of securing to us the chief supply of this country.

"*April 26th*, 1826.

"SIR,

"A Russian courier reached this capital on the 23rd inst., charged with despatches for General Suchtelen. Their contents have excited much interest here, but have only been communicated to the French Minister.

"General Suchtelen had an audience of the King on the 24th, and read to H.M. the whole of the papers, the substance of which I have been able to collect.

"The two passages in the despatch which have reference to the note transmitted to M. Minciaky, Russian Chargé d'Affaires at the Porte, cannot fail to strike you as somewhat remarkable:

"'L'Empereur se plaît à croire que quel que soit le résultat de cette démarche, le Roi qui lui a déjà donné tant de preuves de son amitié toujours favorables à sa cause, lui prêtera l'appui de ses vœux les plus sincères, soit pour la réussite de ces négociations, soit pour le succès de ses armes.

"'Je suis heureux de pouvoir vous annoncer que

le Duc de Wellington, qui a eu connaissance de toute la transaction, a reconnu la justice des prétensions de la Russie, et que dans aucun cas elle ne pourra présenter une hypothèse, où les relations amicales entre la Russie et l'Angleterre souffiroient la moindre altération.' " *

The Dalecarlian women are now fast arriving, like the swallows, announcing the approach of the fine season. All the labouring work in and about Stockholm, is done by these women, who, at the close of the gardening and agricultural season, return to their province.

April 29th.—I had a very narrow escape during my ride. Passing along a narrow road near the College of Carlberg, the workmen had just lighted a train of powder to blast some rocks near the road-side, and not having left any one to warn

* " The Emperor is pleased to believe that whatever may be the result of this step, the King, who has already given so many proofs of his friendship, always favourable to his cause, will lend him the support of his most earnest wishes, as well for the success of his negotiations as that of his arms.

" I am happy to be able to announce that the Duke of Wellington, who was aware of the whole transaction, acknowledged the justice of the Russian claims, and that in no case will it present an hypothesis from which the amicable relations between Russia and England could undergo the slightest change."

passengers, I was within twenty yards of the place, when the explosion happened, and a poor man had just passed in a gig. Had we been abreast, which we should have been in another minute, only a miracle could have saved us, for there was a deep ditch in front of us. I escaped with only a sudden turn of my horse, "small blame to him," but I kept my seat as well as my presence of mind.

May 3rd.—At seven o'clock I was summoned to the Palace, the Princess Royal being in labour. All the nobility, employés, and military, were collected, ladies as well as gentlemen. The witnesses were five of each, Count Wetterstedt keeping the protocol. The utmost anxiety prevailed, indeed, I have seldom witnessed a more touching scene; and when at half-past two, the birth of a Prince was announced, there was scarcely a dry eye, and all was still. In about twenty minutes the Royal infant was carried on a cushion borne by the King, attended by the Princess's mistress of the robes, and its future governess, followed by the Queen. This group was particularly striking, the poor infant being shown to its future subjects. The King shook me cordially

by the hand, saying: "Je vous reconnais, mon Général, et je vous remercie." The felicitations seemed unaffected and sincere. There was no pomp in the ceremony. The baby was dressed in a simple cambric robe trimmed with lace, and the cushion the same. It was a very large stout child (he weighed fourteen pounds and was twenty-four inches high), and appeared already to fight with his hands, which were in constant motion. This was certainly the greatest and most important event this fortunate King had known, and not less important to the country which adopted him, for had the Crown Prince's marriage been childless, Sweden would certainly have been in an embarrassing position, and this was felt by all the reflecting portion of its most enlightened inhabitants. In the unsettled state of the Dynasty, there were many unsettled spirits abroad, adherents to the former royal family, which the birth of an heir will set at rest. After the baby was restored to its poor mother, the King and Queen led the assembly from the Palace to the Cathedral, where a most impressive service of thanksgiving was offered up. The fine singing, whilst the guns were firing, had a striking effect.

May 7th.—We went to the French Reformed Church to hear a sermon on the occasion of the young Prince's birth. Amateurs sang a fine Te Deum. The sermon was very good, but unavoidably politics were mixed up with a subject which ordinarily demands more sacred treatment; and I thought the clergyman, a young Swiss, was most energetic when he treated of the heroism of the baby's two grandpapas, and spoke of the King's extraordinary qualities.

May 9th.—I entertained Count Bondé at dinner, who received me so hospitably at Sisterholm, *vide Journal*, and when I proposed Count de Geer's health, one of the great men of this country, who was elected Grand Marshal of the Diet—Admiral Baker told me he had never seen a party of Swedes so joyous and happy, and that he thought I had changed their character.

May 11th.—I assisted at the baptism at the Château. We were placed in the Tribune provided for the Corps Diplomatique, and saw perfectly. The procession passed through the open quadrangle, Her Majesty supported by the two eldest Excellencies carrying the infant. The dish upon which the child was placed being of silver, the

fatigue of carrying it must have been great. The whole ceremony was very fine — an immense assemblage—and the Knights of the Seraphim (the Garter of Sweden) in grand costume gave a great effect to the whole scene. At the altar there was an Archbishop and three Bishops magnificently robed. A long service was read, and the baby was brought to the altar where he was christened Charles Louis Eugène, and afterwards invested with the Order of the Seraphim. The ceremony lasted two hours, and for us, who did not understand the language, was not interesting. The ladies were finely dressed, excepting jewels, in which they were not rich; but it is astonishing how, with their small means, they manage to make so much show. When the procession began to move after the ceremony, there were three flourishes of trumpets and three cheers, and then a Herald proclaimed the names of the young Christian; and there were volleys of musketry and cannon. When the chapel was cleared we were taken to the Princess Royal's apartment, and allowed to see the child, who was placed in Charles XII.'s cradle, which was of carved wood gilt, swinging between two standards of the same style, nothing remarkable

except its having contained that renowned hero. The child was dressed in a robe of silver llama, like the costumes of the Knights of the Seraphim. The little fellow only gave one *halloo*, but that was a loud one. There was a grand state dinner at the Count de Wetterstedt's, and the Count was happy in his introduction of the young Duke of Scania's name to the society.

May 13th.—There was a circle of felicitations at the Palace which I attended. The scene was very brilliant, and I was most kindly received by the King and Prince, who talked to me for a long time. The Queen and the old Princess Albertina (the last of the Vasa family at Stockholm) were also very gracious.

May 14th.—I dined at Court, and the King alluded to some interesting anecdotes of his early career. Amongst others that his constant advice when associated with Fouché, Barras, etc., was to *attack England through Ireland*, holding out in the other hand the olive branch. But he was over-ruled, and the direct attack upon England was the scheme contemplated, which fortunately was never carried into effect.

May 25th.—I went to take leave of the old

Field Marshal, Count Stedinck, previous to his departure for the Czar's coronation. This fine old octogenarian was surrounded by his children and grandchildren, a touching scene, as they were all dreadfully apprehensive that he would not be equal to the fatigue to which a Czar's coronation subjects those who assist—ten or eleven hours of standing during the service in the Greek Church. It happened that at the coronation of the Emperor Paul, a person, exhausted with fatigue, fell down. His Majesty immediately sent to apprise the individual that in the Greek Church the congregation are required to stand upright!

May 27th.—News arrived of the death of the Empress Elizabeth, widow of the Emperor Alexander (and the delay of the coronation in consequence, a sad disappointment to the illustrious strangers, whose splendour will be thrown away as there are to be no *fêtes*, but only the religious ceremony). The poor Empress died on the way to Kalouga, at the small town of Bielav. Her life had been chiefly distinguished by its patient suffering under illness, and her death can only be considered as a release from a world of misery

in which, to use her own words, she was "*Seule!*" What a lesson!

June 3rd.—I called at the Hospital to see my valet, who had the gout. He was very well lodged and taken care of. I went through several of the wards, which were deplorably badly ventilated, but otherwise the rest of the establishment seemed well managed, the rooms spacious, and the sick well cared for.

June 4th.—I attended the ceremony of the churching of the Princess, which was somewhat like the christening. The Princess looked remarkably well, and was splendidly dressed. Her train, scarlet richly embroidered in gold, was borne by the maids of honour, and I cannot describe their graceful manner. The religious ceremony lasted two hours, and was wearisome enough. The following day there was a gala reception to felicitate the Princess, an odd ceremony. H.R.H. stood, and we all passed before her in succession without speaking, but at the Circle afterwards she said something gracious to every one. She looked pale, but very handsome.

June 10th.—A party assembled at seven on board the steamboat bound to Gripsholm. The

morning was heavenly, and the scenery of the Lake Mählen beautiful, wild and picturesque; the banks dotted with fine country houses, and as we proceeded we were occasionally surrounded by islands, and then the passage opened upon a large expanse of water, thus varying the scene. The whole party were delighted, especially my young countrymen, Lord William Montagu and Mr. Lawton, who accompanied us, as well as between forty and fifty members of the Corps Diplomatique. When the King heard we were going to visit his Palace, he sent all sorts of good things on board, and ordered the Palace to be prepared in case we determined on staying the night. My countrymen were surprised at this attention. The French Minister supplied food, the English Minister wine, and the Russian the boats. We got to the Palace about two, and decided upon dining on shore, which we did at half-past four, having walked through the apartments previously. I scarcely found anything I had not seen before, except a portrait of Eric XIV., painted by himself, cabinet size, which he sent to Queen Elizabeth when he asked her in marriage. Even had she been inclined to enter that holy state, I think this specimen would have deterred Her

Majesty from the undertaking. We dined in the great dining-hall, which is preserved in its original state as when used by Gustav Vasa. It is an immense room, filled with bad but interesting pictures of all the sovereigns of that day: Henry VIII. of England, etc., etc. Not a nail has been removed since that epoch. We adjourned for coffee to the Rotunda, on the walls of which hang the portraits of Gustavus III. and his cotemporary, George III. of England. We did not get home till three a.m., but as there is literally no night here at this season, nothing could be more delightful than the whole excursion.

June 15th.—I dined with the King at Haya. The house is very nice, and beautifully situated on the banks of a lake. The Prince had marched the troops for a bivouac about fifteen miles from Stockholm, fighting thither, and then back in the morning. H.M. proposed our riding to join H.R.H., which we did, and overtook the troops about half-way. When we arrived at our bivouac for the night, the King proposed my returning in his carriage, but as I had promised H.R.H. to assist at the manœuvre, I excused myself. After visiting the outposts, he drove John Bloomfield and me to a gentleman's

place where H.R.H. had promised to sup, where we were all received with hospitality. A fine house in a beautiful situation. We had an immense supper, and at a quarter past one we returned to the camp. The night was fine, the air having been cooled by refreshing showers; we had a charming drive, the face of the country affording the most beautiful positions for troops. At two we reached head-quarters, where my A.D.C. and I did what we could in the way of an hour's doze on the floor. At three a.m. we were again on horseback; the signal being given, the enemy was put in motion. At four o'clock our rear-guard was forced from its position, and we retired, defending the ground as circumstances permitted. At Ulricksdall, near General Suchtelen's, we formed into two lines, and here the brunt of the battle took place, and after disputing every inch of ground we were obliged to retire. A suspension of hostilities took place (to bury our dead and remove the wounded), which time was most agreeably employed devouring an excellent breakfast at General Suchtelen's. After this hospitality we again recovered our military array, and the two corps were soon in motion. We had several skirmishes, and one obstinate defence

of our late position near the camp, from which we were forced, and then made our retreat to the original ground. H.R.H. wished me to stop and dine, but I excused myself.

June 18th.—I dined at the Prince Royal's, and, it being Sunday, before dinner we had prayers and a sermon. There was an immense dinner of all the Staff and chiefs of regiments, at least 150. At six we mounted our chargers, and the manœuvres began. There were about 9000 men. The King looked on, and when all was over H.M. passed the line amidst general cheering. H.R.H. commanded the troops. After the battle we assembled at the Pavilion, where we found the Queen, the Princess Royal, and the Court.

June 20th.—I dined at the camp with the Prince Royal, and then joined the troops. The manœuvre was over new ground, and the forcing the bridge under the château was a beautiful sight. The fight continued till ten p.m., when we adjourned to head-quarters, and made our bow to the Queen, etc. We then went to the camp of the Chasseurs to see them dance a national dance, which was not very amusing, though a novel pastime.

July 6th.—The very unusual dry weather con-

tinues in a most alarming degree, and renders the forests so liable to ignition; a general scarcity is apprehended, and a tract of wood in the immediate neighbourhood of Stockholm having been for some days on fire, H.S.M. sent 500 soldiers to arrest its progress. They have just been relieved by 1000 sailors, but the flames are by no means yet subdued. I must also state that conflagrations are very general throughout the forests of this country, but are in no case suspected to be the result of incendiaries.

There is a general deficiency in the crops, and also an epidemic complaint amongst the cattle in Norway which in some districts still continues, and the Governors of the several Provinces have received orders to use the utmost precautionary means to arrest its progress.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS, ETC.

"*August* 24, 1826.

"SIR,

"Yesterday I had the honour of dining with H.S.M., to whom I presented the letters of felicitation from my Royal Master on the birth of the Duke of Scania. The King received it with

assurances of the sincerest gratitude for the interest which His Britannic Majesty has ever been pleased to evince in the welfare of his Royal house, and desired me to impress in the strongest manner on the British Government the unfailing steadiness of his attachment to the King, my master, as well as his inviolable determination to cultivate to the utmost the friendship of England, and cement by every means in his power the harmony subsisting between the two countries."

TO THE RIGHT HON. GEORGE CANNING.

'*September* 29, 1826.

"The season being so far advanced I have taken upon myself to permit Mr. St. George to leave Stockholm to-morrow on his way to Turin, which he will accordingly do, having had a few days ago his audience of leave of the Royal Family.

"The Queen, the Prince, and the Princess Royal were pleased to express themselves in terms of the kindest regret at Mr. St. George's departure, and H.S.M. in particular assured him in my presence that he felt, in common with his whole Court, sincerely sorry that any circumstances

should call Mr. St. George after so long a residence from a country where his conduct had afforded so much unmixed satisfaction both in his private and public capacity, His Majesty dwelling with the most flattering emphasis on the conciliatory and prudent manner in which Mr. St. George had invariably fulfilled the orders of his Court and conducted himself in his relations with this Cabinet.

"I cannot allow Mr. St. George to separate himself from this mission without expressing my highest commendation and praise of his conduct in all our relations. Indeed, I cannot adequately speak to the constant ability displayed by him in the various services committed to my care and management, and which were most highly important to me. From the time of assuming my new duties his attentions have been tendered with unceasing zeal and delicacy, and I venture to add that nothing but the particular circumstances attending the late nomination of his successor could in any wise compensate me for the loss I shall experience from his departure.

"Signed,

"BLOOMFIELD."

October 14*th.*—The prices of grain in general, and particularly of barley, oats, and pease having advanced considerably abroad as well as in this country, this Government has, in order to encourage a further importation, reduced the import duties again very considerably.

In order to facilitate importation still further, foreign vessels coming to Sweden chiefly with grain, are to be admitted on the same footing, as to tonnage and harbour dues, as Swedes, neither are their cargoes to be subjected to higher duties than by the latter. This new regulation is to remain in force till the end of May next year.

October 20*th.*—I enclose a Royal declaration upon the free exercise of religion, bearing date the 24th of January, 1781. It appears from the best information that I have been able to collect, that no relaxation has been extended to the Roman Catholic, or other religion not being that of the State, since the overthrow of the former, and the establishment of the Lutheran doctrine in this country.

Although from the failure of the crop of spring-sown corn, it is not likely that any exports could take place from home, the prices being already

too high, it has been thought expedient, by a Royal order, to prohibit the exportation of barley, oats, and pease.

November 10*th.*—In reference to my report on the deficiency of corn, I have now to state that the Government has found it necessary to take up the remaining half-million of dollars of the credit on the bank, stipulated by the Diet for the purchase of grain in years of scarcity.

In some parts of the country, the want of water for working the mills has been so severely felt, that the people, unable to have their corn ground, would have been exposed to the horrors of famine, had not the Government thrown open its stores of bread at Carlscrona, and administered to their relief.

November 17*th.*—The Crown rent and taxes are in many parts of this country required to be paid unconditionally in kind, whereas in others, they may be liquidated in money, at prices which are fixed annually after the harvest; but the scarcity of grain this year, in some districts, is so great, that the Government has extended the latter privilege throughout the country.

The importation of foreign grain into this port,

since October 14th, amounts to about 16,000 barrels, the greatest part of which is barley. In the course of this week, H.S.M. commanded that the actual quantity of flour in store should be ascertained, when it was found that there did not exceed eight or ten days' consumption available to the inhabitants of this capital and its neighbourhood.

November 24th.—This Government, continuing to direct its attention to the wants and distresses of the lower classes of the country, has just issued circular orders to the Governors of the Provinces to offer, at the opening of the spring, employment in the public works within their respective districts, such as the opening of obstructed navigation in the rivers, the making of new roads, the building of the Fortress of Wanäs and the cutting of the Gotha and Hjilmare canal, in most of which undertakings detachments of the military have hitherto been employed as labourers, instead of which the poorer classes of Agriculturists or their dependents are to have the preference in so far as they may be able to absent themselves from the tillage of their respective lands.

December 2nd.—The liberality of the principles

of the Commercial Treaty just concluded between these countries and Denmark cannot fail in being most important to both the contracting parties, not only in their commercial relations, but in extinguishing that jealousy and hatred which not unusually characterises the intercourse of neighbouring nations, and which with reference to these countries is amply exemplified.

April 27th, 1827.—On the 21st inst. I had the honour to dine with Their Swedish Majesties. His Majesty dwelt at considerable length on the advantages which must ever accrue to Sweden from its connection with Great Britain, and at the same time remarked that in so expressing himself he spoke the sentiments of the whole nation, and he hoped that by a prudent system of government, unoffending to his neighbours, he should be enabled to push onward the ameliorations already in progress, and to advance the industry of his people. His Majesty observed that the failure of the second harvest might force him to assemble the States at the close of the year, as the funds at his disposal would be insufficient to supply the wants occasioned by such a calamity, but that otherwise he would not hasten their convocation before the usual time.

His Majesty continued that he was occupied in ameliorating the military system, and that he should propose to the States that longer periods of exercise be stipulated for the conscription, and that details of minor importance be also established. These changes entailing an increased expenditure will, I imagine, meet with much opposition, though certainly both efficiency and strength must be the result of their adoption, and Sweden, with reference to its population, would be enabled to bring into the field a most respectable force.

His Majesty went on to state that the naval branch was also under investigation, and he was inclined to think that the result would tend much to improve that service in its applicability to the Baltic waters and the peculiar nature of its harbours and inlets. His Majesty did not enter into the details of this new organisation, but I know it to be the substitution of a numerous flotilla attended by steam-boats for a large class of ships now forming the naval force of this country. I confess that I lean to this organisation as better calculated to give efficiency to a defensive system, which alone ought to be that of Sweden. Besides, by the adoption of a flotilla, the high quality of the

seamen will not be required for its navigation, an object of great importance to a country so very limited in its means.

His Majesty charged me to express his entire confidence in the good will and protection of our great country and to assure the King, my master, and yourself, that he should regulate his external relations in a manner suited to accord with the opinions of his best ally.

Lord Bloomfield left Stockholm for England on the 28th of April, 1827. Returned the 8th of October, 1828.

CHAPTER XV.

Return to Stockholm—Russian Campaign in Turkey—Title of Prince Gustavus—Opening of the Diet—Letters from the Emperor Nicholas and George IV.—Debate on the Liberty of the Press—Negotiations between Turkey and Russia—Death of the Princess Albertina of Sweden—Gunboat Experiments—Despatches.

TO THE EARL OF ABERDEEN.

"*October* 17, 1828.

"My Lord,

"I have the honour to inform your Lordship that the King returned to Stockholm on Monday evening, and that on Tuesday after my presentation, I had the honour, with Mr. Bloomfield, of dining with H.M.

"Previous to the dinner, I was closeted for some time with the King, during which he was

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[Lord Bloomfield returned to Stockholm on the 8th of October, after a lengthened leave of absence, during which time his only son, the Hon. John Arthur Douglas Bloomfield, was Chargé d'Affaires at Stockholm.—*Note by the Editor.*]

pleased to express himself with unreserved satisfaction at my return, accompanied by the most favourable opinion and approval of Mr. Bloomfield's deportment while in charge of His Majesty's mission; and it is my duty further to state that Count Wetterstedt, Minister for Foreign Affairs, has likewise represented his conduct, in all his relations with this Government, in the most gratifying manner.

"The conversation before dinner turned upon the state of the Russian Campaign, and was entirely military, coming to the conclusion that the fall of Varna could not long be delayed, but that further offensive operations at this season connected with the siege of Schumla, he thought, almost impracticable.

"After dinner the King was again pleased to separate himself from the circle, and talked to me at considerable length upon the effect likely to be produced upon Russia by the Austrian Armament; making a rapid march over the state of the different armies of Europe, evidently desirous to get quickly to that of the Netherlands, when His Majesty turned to the approaching marriage of Prince Gustavus, upon which subject His Majesty

seems to labour under the most extraordinary excitement. H.S.M. dwelt confidently not only on the countenance which he expected to receive from the King my master, in all the views he had taken upon that subject and conveyed through the Count de Björnstjerna (Swedish Representative in London) to my Government, but upon the good offices of my King and his Government should His Netherland Majesty persevere in giving the title of Prince of Sweden to his future son-in-law.

"The King dilated largely on the great services that he had rendered to His Netherland Majesty, and on the share he had had in his Restoration; adding that he thought the present course, if adopted, but an ill return for those services. Indeed, I know this to be the tone in which he has addressed the King of the Netherlands, and which has been repelled in no very measured tone by H.N.M. Towards the close of a conversation of full two hours, the King declared it to be his intention to avenge these wrongs offered to the Swedish nation, should they be persevered in, by recourse to arms; in which case, his only anxiety rested upon the neutrality of Sweden's ancient ally and best friend, the King

of Great Britain. During this lengthened conversation I never recollect to have seen H.S.M. in such a state of excitement, to which I entirely attribute the tone and tenor of the incomprehensible decisions to which he would fain have made me believe he had come.

"The Prussian Minister had yesterday an audience of the King to present His Sovereign's letter in answer to that addressed by H.S.M. upon the above subject. Its contents resemble in the main part of its construction those of the Danish letters, going principally to the two points, that whatever decision might be arrived at, nothing could shake the order of things at present established in Sweden. H.P.M., however, reserving to himself the intention of communicating with his allies as to the course most advisable to adopt."

"*November* 14.

"My Lord,

"Count Woyna, the Austrian *Chargé d'Affaires*, received last week the reply of H.I.M. the Emperor Francis to H.S.M.'s letter upon the question of Prince Gustavus. I was surprised to hear from the Count that he was directed not to deliver, according to diplomatic usage, a copy of it to this

Government. On the contrary, Prince Metternich, though enclosing a copy for his own information, instructed him merely to announce its arrival to this Government, and to represent himself to be totally ignorant of its contents. Count Wetterstedt, on learning the Austrian *Chargé d'Affaire's* instructions, made some remarks as to the custom in communications between Sovereigns, and finished by saying that he would take the King's pleasure. On Sunday last the Count Woyna was informed that H.S.M. would grant him a private audience for the delivery of the letters, when he was received very graciously. The King expressed himself in his usual flow of language, almost impossible to follow; and after observing that he relied with confidence on the good faith of the Emperor, and on the impossibility of His Imperial Majesty's making any communication that he ought not to receive, His Majesty dismissed Count Woyna and retired with the letters unopened.

"Count Woyna has confidentially imparted these particulars to me, and having likewise allowed me a perusal of the copy intrusted to him, I beg leave to give the following as the chief points and substance of that paper.

"'In expressing to your Majesty my sense of the proofs of confidence contained in your Majesty's letter of the 14th August, which I received from the hands of the Count de Löwenhielm, your Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, I must convey the interest I have taken in being advised of the correspondence between your Majesty and the King of the Netherlands upon the subjects and explanations relating to the title to be borne by Prince Gustavus, son of the *ci-devant* King of Sweden, on his marriage with the Princess Marianne of Orange.

"It is doubly agreeable to me in consequence of the knowledge of the above correspondence through my Chancellors of the Courts, to learn that the first explanations had satisfied your Majesty, and that you had no objection to a later determination as to the title becoming an object of concert between the Sovereigns, your Majesty's, and my allies, to whom your Majesty has thought proper to address yourself. Such concert is the more desirable as, since the epoch of the re-establishment of public peace in Europe, and of the general transactions in which your Majesty had taken so glorious a part, all

Governments have at different times felt convinced of the salutary effects of a like exchange of views and means of conciliation. I shall be more anxious to join in such deliberations to arrange this question for the future, which may be entered into by the Court at Paris, as I consider it a duty not to avoid any occasion to *confirm the respect which I profess for the faith of treaties, and for using existing rights.*'"

"*November* 21.

"My Lord,

"The Diet was opened on the 15th inst. in the usual form. As soon as the King was seated on his throne the Crown Prince, as heretofore, delivered the Royal speech.

"The third Paragraph most certainly alludes to the question of Prince Gustavus, and will sufficiently convey to your Lordship the uneasiness which continues to press on His Serene Majesty.

"Your Lordship will observe in the sixth Paragraph the statement made of the prosperity of the finances. That an amelioration exists there is no doubt, and that the liberal commercial system has mainly contributed to it is alike certain. But that

the improvement has gone the length announced much doubt exists.

"The general improvement in the condition of the people, and in the internal communications, are very evident.

"The wants of the army are next brought under consideration, and will be the most difficult proposition to carry through the States, as His Majesty is said to require a considerable increase of the exercising period, unavoidably involving a proportionate increase of expense, and therefore adding to a pressure of which the country already complains. The moment, too, is doubly unfavourable, as the whole army requires clothing anew, a further reason for anticipating strong opposition to the measure."

"*November* 21.

"In my despatch of the 14th inst. I had the honour to inform your Lordship of the arrival of the Emperor Nicholas's reply to H.S.M.'s letter upon the question of Prince Gustavus.

"I am informed that the contents of this letter are highly satisfactory to the King of Sweden, and that the expressions used by the Emperor leave no doubt of his view of the question, and of his deter-

mination to support the rights of the present Dynasty, distinctly affirming that he has neither given nor ever will acknowledge any other title as connected with Sweden than that which he gives Prince Gustavus in this letter. In fact I hear that this letter may be looked upon as a confirmation of Count Nesselrode's despatch to General Suchtelen, the promises therein made to abide by the stipulations of existing treaties, being again repeated.

"Allusion is made in this letter to the success of the Imperial arms, which H.S.M. it appears did not fail to mention in his letter to the Emperor.

"In a postscript the Emperor adds, in his own hand, his regret that the urgency of military occupations prevented his writing the whole letters, but that he seizes the opportunity to assure His Majesty of the personal interest he takes in H.M.'s welfare and happiness, and finishes with expressions that must be highly gratifying to the King.

"I am further informed that when this letter was delivered to Baron Palmstjerna, reference was made to the proposed conference at Paris, recom-

mending that the basis of the question should rest on the stipulations entered into at the Congress of Aix-la-Chapelle, by which an independent Principality was to be purchased for the Prince, the title of which H.R.H. was to assume. H.S.M. is said to have further expressed himself to Baron Palmstjerna that whatever may be the result of the Conference touching the title to be borne by the Prince Gustavus, H.S.M. will never consent that he bear that of Sweden, which however unimportant in itself, might have the possible effect of furnishing future ground of pretension to the Throne."

LETTER FROM GEORGE IV.

"*November* 28.

"I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch, enclosing a letter addressed to H.M. the King of Sweden and Norway, respecting the title by which Prince Gustavus should in future be designated, and I had yesterday the honour of a private audience of H.S.M. for the purpose of delivering the Royal letters. The King appeared greatly satisfied with the letter, and much pleased with its frankness and decision, and expressed himself deeply sensible of

the general tone of this communication as bearing testimony to that friendship which has continually characterised the acts of His Britannic Majesty's Government. The King desired me to convey 'les hommages et ses respects,' and further to express in the strongest terms his *gratitude* for this fresh proof of the unvarying sentiments of His Britannic Majesty towards Sweden, its King and Dynasty.

"Thinking the opportunity a fitting one, I observed that H.S.M. might rest assured that he would discover in the Government of England neither a vacillation of principle, nor a departure from the most sacred observance of its engagements. I had the honour of remaining nearly two hours with the King, during which time the object of my audience chiefly occupied His Majesty, but towards the close of it he conversed at some length upon the general state of Eastern Policy."

December 19th.—Since I informed your Lordship of the letter addressed by the Emperor Nicholas to H.S.M., it has been in my power to obtain a copy of this paper, which I now enclose.

Its tone and expressions evince the cordial manner in which the Emperor apparently embraces the cause of the present dynasty, and shows his strong personal friendship and interest towards the King. The Emperor's remarks upon the fortunate result of the campaign in Turkey, and upon the approbation H.S.M. was pleased to bestow on the military combinations which have led to it, have been most agreeable to the King, and prove from the manner in which they have been received how much his mind is open to phrases of this description.

The effect of the several Russian declarations on the question of Prince Gustavus has been to throw H.S.M. completely into the arms of that country, and this *rapprochement* is daily more and more manifested by the language held and the distinctions shown to the mission of H.I.M. at this Court.

March 6th, 1829.—The question of discontinuing the powers given to the King by the Diet of Orebro in 1812, to suppress at his pleasure any publication, has been discussed with great warmth in the four Chambers, and carried through that of the Nobles, of the Clergy, and of the Burghers, but thrown out in that of the Peasants by a majority of twenty.

This Chamber is in a strange and novel state, ten of the majority having protested against their own votes, and the whole of the minority have resolved to give a grand dinner to one of its members who spoke with great force in favour of the question. About 200 persons, chiefly members of the other orders, have subscribed to the entertainment. There is no manner of doubt that these wretched politicians have been bought by the King, who is so adverse to the proposition that H.M. was heard to say at a large dinner of ladies and gentlemen, and in the hearing of all, "that he had shown the Swedes some of his qualities, and would show them others; that he would rather see the extinction of his whole family than not hold his right of control over the Press."

During the discussion in the House of Nobles, one of the opposition members observed, in allusion to the sum of 10,000 dollars banco believed to have been distributed among the peasants, that "he would not change his opinion for 10,000 such sounding arguments."

March 6th.— . . . A communication on the part of the Sultan was made in November last, through the Danish Minister at Constantinople, to the Emperor of Russia, desiring to know if Turkish

Plenipotentiaries authorised to treat for peace would be received by H.I.M., and an armistice granted during the negotiations.

The Emperor expressed his perfect readiness to receive the Turkish plenipotentiaries, and to agree to an armistice until the 3rd of February, O.S., following up his communication by the renewal of the basis on which he would treat, namely: Indemnity for the expenses of the war, *the navigation of the Bosphorus*, and ample and sufficient guarantees for the fulfilment of all the stipulations of whatever treaty may be concluded, H.I.M. abjuring all idea of aggrandisement. In the month of January, the Sultan, through Reis Effendi, declared his intention not to entertain the question, and thus ended this short negotiation.

I hear, by a Danish despatch, that the Emperor had required to hold possession of the two fortresses of Anapa and Poti, on the eastern side of the Black Sea.

March 21st.—I have the honour to inform you, that H.R.H. the Princess Albertina, sister of the late King of Sweden, Charles XIII., expired, after a lingering illness, in her 76th year. H.R.H. was the only remaining member of the Vasa family

residing in Sweden. Her benevolent disposition, and her kindly intercourse with the different members of her court, will rest long in their recollection, and have drawn forth the most unfeigned expressions of sorrow. H.S.M. has ever acted with the greatest respect towards this Princess, and since his accession everything possible has been done to meet the wishes of H.R.H., and render her residence here agreeable.

The sensation caused by this death is very trifling, and it is truly wonderful that this remaining branch of a family, which reigned so many years over this country, drew it into European notice, and raised its fame to so unexampled a pitch of glory, should pass away without a more general demonstration of grief; nevertheless, I must not omit stating to your Lordship, that amongst the highest and most respectable families of this country, there is a manifest and deep expression of sorrow. H.R.H. died possessed of but very little property, amounting to about £9000, which she has bequeathed (with the exception of a few legacies to dependents) to the Count and Countess Stenbock, the chief persons of her household.

April 3rd.—I have the honour to enclose a

copy of the letter I addressed to Count Wetterstedt upon the right of exportation from Sweden with the same advantages as are enjoyed by the national flag; and I now enclose a copy of His Excellency's reply. It is quite satisfactory, and a full confirmation of the claim your Lordship intended me to lay before the Swedish Government. . . .

In the latter part of the enclosed papers is Count Wetterstedt's reply to the request, so often urged by His Majesty's mission, to have British commerce relieved from the oppression of the Diving Company. It is therefore particularly satisfactory to me to be enabled to report that our commerce is now wholly exempt from the onerous privileges and powers enjoyed and exercised by that Company. I am informed that a new charter for this Company is before the committee of the Diet, as a continuance of it is considered desirable by the Swedish merchants in general. This new charter will, however, be of little importance, as British trade is relieved from its operation further than may be agreed upon between the masters of vessels in danger of shipwreck, and the agents of the Company. The charges becoming matters of private settlement between the parties

May 15*th.*—I have to inform your Lordship that the Baron Hogguer arrived last night from Vienna, and is the bearer of a communication from the Swedish ministers at that Court, carrying the information that the Prince Gustavus was no longer to be styled Prince Gustavus of Sweden; but that H.R.H. had announced his intention of assuming the title of Vasa, and that he would be in future so designated in the imperial list of the army, and on all occasions of ceremony wherein H.R.H. was concerned.

The Austrian Chargé d'Affaires at his residence has also received a private letter from Prince Metternich to the same effect.

I have as yet no data by which I can judge how far this alteration may or may not be agreeable to the Reigning Dynasty; but I am quite certain that to the country it will not be particularly acceptable. . . .

May 29*th.*—In my conference with Count Wetterstedt the other day, His Excellency mentioned the communication from Vienna, and the assumption by Prince Gustavus of the title of Prince of Vasa. His Excellency observed that the King his master would make no remark on this arrangement,

adding, however, that it was difficult to understand why the Prince had not adopted one to which he was so well entitled, viz., that of "Prince of Holstein Gottorp."

The Government has kept this communication studiously from the public, for although it has been received above a fortnight, to this hour the circumstance is unnoticed by the Swedish Press. Indeed, excepting on the occasion of my conversation with the Minister, I have not heard utterance on the subject, proof, if any were wanting, that the decision is painfully felt by all ranks.

On Saturday last, the 23rd inst., His Swedish Majesty's name's day, a great entertainment was given at the Palace at which I had the honour to assist. Before we sat down to table the King deigned to hold a long conversation with me on the events which had taken place at Christiania the 17th of May, detailing a variety of matters which appeared to me to be so purely accidental, and wholly free from prearrangement, that I heard with regret the circumstance of the civil authorities of the Norwegian capital having resorted to military force for the dispersion of a throng of people assembled in innocent recreation on a Sunday, and

drawn together by the arrival, for the first time this season, of a Copenhagen steamboat. It seems that the authorities availed themselves of a police regulation which forbids people collecting after ten o'clock p.m.; a measure injudicious, if not uncalled for; and the result has been, that by the interference of the garrison, several persons have received sabre wounds and have been otherwise roughly handled.

The Government has been obliged to appoint a Commission to investigate the whole affair, and the citizens on their part, had convened a meeting to deliberate on the propriety of expressing their dissatisfaction at this very harsh exercise of powers, and the many personal injuries inflicted on several of their fellow burghers.

August 14th.— . . . Her Swedish Majesty's coronation has been decided upon.

A Royal message was delivered to the Diet on Monday last, announcing, that in compliance with the wish expressed by the States in 1823, the King had been pleased to fix Friday, the 21st August, for the coronation of Her Majesty.

The shortness of the notice precludes the possibility of even the usual *éclat* being given to the

ceremony, and will consequently tend to lighten the expense to be incurred. I understand the present estimate does not exceed 25,000 D.B., about £2000.

September 4th.—I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that the Count Rozenblad has succeeded to the office of Minister of Justice, vacant by the death of the Count Gyllenborg. This appointment has given general satisfaction.

An extensive promotion in the different orders of Sweden has taken place, in celebration of Her Majesty's coronation, and Her Majesty's household has also been completed. The Count de la Gardie is named Lord Great Chamberlain, and the Countess Gyldenstolpe Mistress of the Robes.

The fête at Drottingholm was exceedingly brilliant, and the Royal Family was received by the people with much enthusiasm. The proximity of this Palace to the capital afforded to the inhabitants a facility of assisting at the fête, and the crowd was immense, conducting itself with an order rare in any country.

October 2nd.— . . . Some animated discussions have taken place in the House of Nobles, on the subject of some branches of the Budget which

have been returned with the recommendation of the committee. They comprehended merely the augmentation of salaries to the Public functionaries. I need only mention the sum proposed in the cases of the two principal ministers, the Count de Rozenblad and the Count de Wetterstedt, namely 1000 dollars banco to each, being about £80 sterling. The division on this proposition was, for the augmentation 134, against it 67. The clergy has sanctioned the grant, but the burghers having voted for a reduction of the proposed sum to 500 dollars banco, and the peasants having voted against the augmentation altogether, the proposition falls to the ground.

October 9th.—The Prince Royal has lately arrived from the Baltic, after having passed fifteen days in a course of experiments with a flotilla of gun-boats, and having had the honour of dining with H.R.H. on his return, he entered into a lengthened description of the perfect success of this arm for the defence of the Swedish coast. Had it not been for a severe illness from which I am but just recovering, I was to have had the honour of attending the Prince on this cruise, when my report would have been made from my

own observations. I, however, learn from the Admiral, Count Platen, as well as from H.R.H., that the result of the trial surpassed the expectations of the most sanguine supporters of this principle of defence.

They experienced much bad weather, and the boats were found to stand the sea admirably, and from their construction to sail or row equally well either by the bow or the stern. Each boat carries a twenty-four gun and a complement of twenty-two men. There were two larger-sized boats, each carrying a shell gun of very heavy calibre, with the service of which H.R.H. was also highly satisfied.

Although the admirals in general hold to the larger class of ships, and although the King's previous opinion has in consequence been somewhat shaken, I anticipate the ultimate establishment of this new system, as that best calculated for the defence of a coast full of indentures, and generally shoal waters. In addition to this view of the military part of this question, the prodigious economy and the facility with which the country could equip and navigate the small boats, form no unimportant consideration in aid of the adoption of the system.

When I am told that the funds at the King's disposal do not enable H.S.M. to send a corvette to St. Bartholomew, it would be superfluous to observe to your Lordship the inefficiency of a navy that never leaves the Arsenal of Carlscrona, and the whole of which is in a state of ordinary.

October 23rd.— . . . The reports from the several provinces of the state of the harvest have been received, by which it appears that the supply of corn is amply sufficient to meet the home demands, but no expectation is entertained that the *export* of this article of produce will be permitted.

October 30th.—A more liberal system of commerce has for some time occupied this Government, and, on the introduction of a Bill to that effect, a warm discussion has taken place. The result, however, has been the removal, by a large majority, of all prohibition to the introduction of foreign produce and manufacture, on payment of a rate which may be sufficient to protect the interests invested in the manufacturing establishments of this country. On the question of the rate, the Diet has not yet determined; but the principle having passed three Orders, needs only H.S.M.'s sanction to make the Bill law.

November 13th.—I had heard of communications from the Count de Wetterstedt, made in his King's name to the Russian Minister, on the occasion of the latter's transmission of a despatch with the Treaty of Adrianople for His Swedish Majesty's perusal, but I confess I did not anticipate the terms in which the King was pleased to direct his sentiments to be conveyed on the return of these papers. The language I will vouch to be that of the King, and somewhat strengthens the belief I expressed in 1828–29 that a *rapprochement* existed, and is growing into maturity between the two Powers.

The letter is dated the 19th ultimo, and contains the following remarkable passages.

The Count de Wetterstedt begins by thanking, on the part of his master, the Russian Minister for his communication of the Treaty of Adrianople, observing "que cette œuvre de pacification répond parfaitement aux espérances que l'Empereur Nicholas avait données au monde dès l'aurore de son règne." The Count then quotes the Treaty, "comme dorénavant une colonne vivante de la modération de Sa Majesté Impériale," and closes with the following very remarkable paragraph: "Le Roi, qui, dès le commencement de la dernière campagne s'étoit

identifié aux hasards et aux combinaisons des opérations qui devoient amener les éclatans triomphes, a ressenti en ami fidèle et en loyal voisin, les succès qu'il avait appelés en faveur de S.M.I. de toutes les forces de son âme." *

I forbear to offer any comment on this extraordinary communication. It speaks for itself, and will demonstrate to your Lordship the state of the King's mind in his relations with his neighbours.

December 25th.—On Friday last, the Russian Minister at this court gave a grand dinner in celebration of His Sovereign's name's day. The company consisted of all the high public functionaries, of the principal members of the Court, and of the diplomatic corps. The Count de Wetterstedt, in proposing the health of the Emperor, expressed himself in the following terms:

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* "That this work of pacification responds perfectly to the hopes the Emperor Nicholas gave to the world at the commencement of his reign. . . .

"The Treaty will be henceforth a living proof of His Imperial Majesty's moderation. . . . The King, who, since the commencement of the last campaign had identified himself with the chances and combination of the operations which were to result in such splendid triumphs, has felt as a friend and neighbour the successes which he had desired with the whole strength of his soul, in favour of H.I.M."

"A Sa Majesté l'Empereur Nicolas, ce souverain qui, dès le printemps de son règne, a eu la double gloire de réunir sur son noble front les lauriers de la victoire, aussi que les palmes de la paix et de la modération."*

To which the Count de Suchtelen replied:

"J'ai l'honneur, Messieurs, de vous proposer la santé de Sa Majesté le Roi de Suède et de Norvège. Sa Majesté dès le commencement de la campagne jusqu'à la glorieuse prise d'Adrianople n'a cessé de faire des vœux pour notre expédition. Elle a manifesté franchement son adhésion à notre juste cause et mérite l'estime et la reconnaissance de son illustre ami et allié. Elle a donné son assentiment à tous nos plans (et qui pourroit en être un meilleur juge?), et nos généraux ont eu l'honneur de son suffrage."†

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* "To the health of His Majesty the Emperor Nicholas, that Sovereign, who, from the spring time of his reign, has had the double glory of uniting on his noble forehead the laurels of victory as well as the palms of peace and moderation."

† "I have the honour, gentlemen, of proposing the health of His Majesty the King of Sweden and Norway. His Majesty, from the commencement of the campaign till the glorious capture of Adrianople, has never ceased to wish well for our expedition. He has honestly manifested his adhesion to our just cause, and deserves the esteem and gratitude of his illustrious friend and

The language of the Russian Minister is highly important when connected with my former reports, and gives much strength to the conclusions I drew at the time that a strong tendency exists in the King's mind towards Russia and its politics.

I am convinced that during the whole war H.S.M. was not only informed by the Russian Minister of the plans of operations, but consulted upon them ; and the zeal with which H.M. expressed himself on all occasions resembled more that of a partisan than we had a right to expect from an independent monarch at peace with the belligerents, and in diplomatic relations with both Courts.

The extracts from Count Wetterstedt's letter addressed to Count Suchtelen, and reported November 13th, will have already conveyed to your lordship the King's forgetfulness of his neutral position.

I beg leave to add that the Swedish guests assembled at the entertainment appeared highly embarrassed at the picture drawn by Count Suchtelen of the relations between the two Sovereigns.

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ally. He has given his assent to all our plans (and who could be a better judge of them?), and our generals were honoured by his approbation."

CHAPTER XVI.

Despatches—Opposition of the Storthing—The King's Wishes respecting France—Death of King George IV.—Flattering Receptions of the Prince Royal at St. Petersburg—Arrival of the Prince de la Moskowa—Cholera—Political Club—Polish Revolution—The King's Views—Indiscreet Sermon—Distress in the Provinces and Norway—Affairs of Belgium—Diplomatic Presents forbidden—State of Norway—Timber Trade—Detention of Polish Agents—Discontent among the Merchants—The Prince Royal appointed Sole Regent.

DESPATCH NO. 19. TO RT. HON. THE EARL OF ABERDEEN, K.G.

"*May* 7, 1830.

". . . A MOST affectionate and dutiful address from the Storthing, and voted *nem. con.*, was presented to the King yesterday by the Norwegian Minister of State, praying that H.M. would be graciously pleased to issue His Royal Orders for Her Majesty's coronation to take place at Christiania. . . . I understand from those who are best informed, that H.M. will most probably accept this demonstration of affection from his

Norwegian people, and that towards the close of July the ceremony may be expected to take place. . . ."

DESPATCH NO. 26. TO RT. HON. THE EARL OF ABERDEEN, K.G.

"*June* 18, 1830.

". . . There appears to have been much discussion in the Storthing. Scarcely a decision has been taken upon the very many motions introduced. Those emanating from the Crown are violently opposed. An effort was made by the Opposition to alter the constitution of the bank by making it over to shareholders, and thereby changing its national character and security as a public establishment, to that of a mere private speculation. It however failed, and the institution remains untouched. This is considered an important triumph. . . ."

DESPATCH NO. 29.

"*July* 10, 1830.

"My Lord,

"I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's circular of the 26th ult., the latter of which announced the afflicting intelligence of the demise of His late Most Gracious

Majesty. I request your Lordship to accept the unfeigned expression of my condolence on the mournful event, and of the deep concern with which I humbly participate in the sorrows of the Royal Family, and in those of my country."

DESPATCH NO. 33.

"*July* 30, 1830.

". . . On Tuesday I had the honour to dine with their Majesties at Rosendahl. Previous to dinner the King took occasion to express in unmeasured terms, his sorrow for the event which had so heavily afflicted the Royal Family and the British Nation. H.M. dwelt very much on the protection which had been afforded to Sweden by the late King, and particularly on his generous forbearance when Sweden was forced to adopt the Continental System, and declare war against England. H.M. was very eloquent on these *points*, and to myself personally, was most feeling in his expressions of condolence.

"Yesterday I was received in a public audience, conducted by the master of the ceremonies, for the purpose of presenting the letter of credence with which the King has been pleased to honour me.

H.S.M. renewed the expressions of his strong desire to strengthen, by every means in his power, the bands of friendship and good understanding now so happily subsisting between the two Crowns, and charged me to convey to the King his conviction that Sweden's best interests were intimately interwoven with those of Great Britain. It, therefore, became his imperative duty to cultivate and improve, if possible, the present harmony which connects the two Courts, and to which happy end no effort should be wanting on the part of Sweden. His Majesty was pleased to assure me of his cordial satisfaction at my nomination, and I hope I may be permitted to avail myself of the present opportunity to entreat your Lordship to lay before the King, my master, the expression of my entire devotion to his service. I desire nothing more earnestly than by zeal and fidelity to deserve the confidence which H.M. has been pleased to repose in me, and to justify your Lordship in your recommendation of my very humble services.

"I afterwards had the honour to dine with their Majesties at Haya, and was most graciously received.

"On Saturday I had the honour to dine with the Princess Royal. Her Royal Highness expressed

her condolence in the most amiable manner, accompanied by her hope that His Majesty's reign may be long, happy, and glorious. My private secretary was included in the several occasions of my invitations to the Royal Family, a distinction quite unusual at this Court."

DESPATCH NO. 34.

"*August* 6, 1830.

"My Lord,

"By the last accounts from Norway I collect that the proceedings of the Storthing continue to be strongly marked by opposition to the King's propositions, and that a general disposition to reject every measure emanating from His Majesty and his Government is most manifest. His Majesty has notified his intention to dissolve the Storthing at the close of the present month, and has named, I understand, the 10th of September for Her Majesty's coronation.

"The King, it is believed, has lent himself to this ceremony with much reluctance, being in no way desirous to see himself surrounded by national representatives, whose political views for the well-being and advancement of the country so entirely differ from those entertained by His Majesty.

"I had the honour to dine, on Sunday last, with Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal. The King and Queen were present, and His Majesty took occasion, in a lengthened conversation, to renew the expressions of his devotion to the King, my master, and of his constant solicitude for the glory and prosperity of England, on which mainly rested the safety and independence of Sweden and Norway. Indeed no language could be stronger than that used by His Majesty in all that regards my Sovereign and my country."

DESPATCH NO. 35.

"*August* 13, 1830.

"My Lord,

"Your Lordship's despatch of July 30th, 1830, reached me in due course, and I did not delay a moment in transmitting a copy of the King's letter addressed to the Queen of Sweden. . . . Their Majesties were pleased to invite my family with myself to dinner, and to remain the evening. Soon after we had retired to the drawing-room, the King honoured me with a very long conversation. H.M. dwelt at great length on the affairs of France, and lamented that so scanty a use had been made

of the artillery, which alone was the arm calculated to put down rebellion. He expressed the strongest desire for the success of the Royal cause. He saw no possibility by which His Christian Majesty could now receive even a conditional surrender, that the sword once drawn could not be returned to its scabbard until unlimited submission, which he most anxiously desired, might characterise the momentary encroachment attempted to be made on the Royal prerogative. His Majesty was most peculiarly excited whilst delivering these sentiments, and then passed to the events of his own life, which he narrated with instructive interest, bearing as they did on the present unhappy state of his native country. On the 4th inst., in the Norwegian Storthing, a motion was made that the Storthing take the necessary measures for the celebration of 17th May, conformable to the reasonable wish of the nation. The question was most warmly discussed, and opposed by the Count de Wedel Jarlsberg, who recommended the improvement of the advantages offered to the nation by the Constitution without anxiously examining as to the day on which, and the manner in which, it was obtained. Notwithstanding the wisdom of the Count's recommenda-

tion, and his arguments in its support, and that he is by far the most influential Norwegian subject, he was left with only twenty-four voices, and the motion was therefore carried by a majority of twenty-four. An address, framed on this motion, is to be transmitted for presentation."

DESPATCH NO. 36.

"*August* 20, 1830.

"MY LORD,

"I received your Lordship's despatch of the 6th of August, transmitting the answer of the King, my master, to a letter which the King of Sweden addressed to His late Majesty of blessed memory, on the 24th of April last, announcing the birth of a Princess. . . . The Prince Royal returned from St. Petersburg on Tuesday the 17th inst., and I learn that the Royal Family is highly gratified by His Royal Highness's reception, and by the particular attentions shown him by the Imperial Family.

"The Storthing rejected on the 13th inst. another Royal Proposition: 'To admit of the nomination of the Crown Prince, or of his eldest son to the Vice-Royalty of Norway, without the obligation

of residence for nine months each year as now by law established.'

"On the division, after a long and warm discussion, the numbers were for the measure 49, against it 28; but the question involving a paragraph of the Constitution, the law requires a majority of two-thirds, the proposition was therefore lost.

"The failure, and the address referred to in my No. 35, 'that measures be taken for the celebration of the 17th of May,'* go to prove the tenacity of the Norwegians to all that regards their Constitution, and have, I understand, given much offence to H.M., so much so, that it is now generally believed that the coronation of the Queen will be, for the present, postponed. . . ."

DESPATCH NO. 37.

"*August* 27, 1830.

". . . I had the honour of dining with the Prince and Princess Royal on Saturday, and after dinner His Royal Highness spoke to me at

* The day on which in 1814, the Assembly of Eiswold had declared nul the Treaty of Kiel, which gave Norway to Sweden, and had chosen Prince Christian of Denmark king.

considerable length on the subject of his visit to St. Petersburg. His Royal Highness confined himself to two points—the extreme kindness of the Imperial Family, and the army. His Royal Highness spoke with great feeling on the amicableness of their Majesties, than which nothing could, I do believe, be more cordial, nay, affectionate. His Royal Highness received four beautiful miniatures of their Majesties—the Grand Duke Michel, and the Grand Duchess Helene, and was also the bearer of four magnificent shawls for his Princess, presents from Her Imperial Majesty. In short it appears quite impossible to have experienced a more flattering reception, and their Swedish Majesties are beyond description gratified. His Royal Highness received a variety of other valuable presents.

"Of the army, the Prince Royal speaks with great admiration. He observed that, in manœuvre, the troops are no longer slow. On the contrary, their rapidity of movement exceeds that of any other he had yet seen, and the intelligence of officers and men strikingly remarkable. On Wednesday last a special messenger was despatched to St. Petersburg, with an autograph letter from His Swedish Majesty

to the Emperor, expressive of the grateful sense entertained by the King and Queen of the Prince Royal's reception by their Imperial Majesties. The events in France have made some sensations here. The lower classes here had meetings in public-houses; but, save those excesses common on such occasions, and wishing success to the French cause, adding that it was now the cause of the people, there is nothing worthy to report to your Lordship."

DESPATCH NO. 38.

"*September* 5, 1830.

"My Lord,

"I had the honour on Friday last to dine with the King, when His Majesty received the two letters with which I was charged for presentation. His Majesty was particularly gracious, and as the society consisted of only two persons and myself, the King spoke with less restraint on the affairs of France than I had yet heard H.M. My impression is that H.M. attaches no blame to the measure of the French ordinances, but reprehended particularly the conduct of the military, and their totally unprovided state. He made no observation on Charles X., either on the previous measures of that unfortunate

monarch, or on his subsequent deportment. H.M. spoke of the several new-named ministers, some of whom had served under him, particularising General Gérard as a man of superior stamp, and one in whom confidence may be reposed. H.M. however added, "Il y a vingt un ans depuis nos relations." I could not to my satisfaction arrive at the inward thoughts of H.M., although I took my leave with the impression that, so long as his dynasty was not endangered, the late events had not occasioned any particular regret. He several times, and especially on retiring, requested me to communicate to him any intelligence I might receive, for that he felt a deep interest in the course the King my master and my Government might adopt on the present state of France.

"On Monday a despatch arrived from St. Petersburg directing the Russian Mission and Consulate not to grant passports to Frenchmen, nor papers to French vessels carrying the tricoloured flag, to proceed to Russia. This strong measure on the part of the Emperor gave great uneasiness to the King, acquainted as he was with the entrance of French men-of-war under that flag into a British port. H.M., therefore, in contrasting the state of things in England with that of Russia, became

highly embarrassed; nay, alarmed lest Great Britain and Russia should be of opposite politics on this question, and thereby place Sweden in a most perplexing difficulty. I am informed from a source which has never failed me, that the Royal mind has scarcely been in a more uncomfortable state. However, by the St. Petersburg mail of yesterday, the restraint placed on vessels carrying the tri-coloured flag has been taken off; but that on the granting papers to Frenchmen remains in force. This has much relieved H.M. as well as His Council, who do not further anticipate a separation of interests between Great Britain and Russia.

"The coronation of Her Majesty as Queen of Norway is postponed. His Majesty is much disconcerted by the continued opposition of the Storthing to his measures, and, I have reason to believe, is not wholly without uneasiness lest the state of France should give fresh stimulus to the democratical spirit which is manifest throughout that country.

"From the heavy rain of the last month much injury has been sustained by the crops, and in one province they have been entirely cut off by a severe frost in the middle of August."

DESPATCH NO. 39.

"*September* 10, 1830.

"My Lord,

"I had the honour to dine with the King on Tuesday last, and after dinner, H.M. was pleased to hold a very long conversation with me, touching, with deep interest, on the affairs of France, as well as on the measures taken, and probably to be taken, by the great powers of Europe; H.M. expressed much anxiety, that the recognition of the present Dynasty should be general, and commended the decision of Great Britain; hoping that the King, my master, would use his influence with the other Sovereigns, to engage them in the same policy. He was of opinion, that to produce an effect on the French people, this measure must not be delayed, and repeated his deep solicitude for the success of the interference, which he considered best calculated to avert the calamities of war. He further said, that if he were to offer counsel to Great Britain, it would be to pursue that course. During this very lengthened conversation, H.M. went back to the former Revolution, in which he had so distinguished a share. Dwelt on his own modera-

tion, when solicited to become the head of the Republic, at which time every feeling and opinion that he then entertained, as well as the feelings and opinions entertained by those with whom he acted, went to form and consolidate the most friendly relations with England. He was therefore persuaded that the same sentiments would now predominate, and he fully expected that, ere long, the ports of France would be open to unrestricted British commerce, as was the intention at the epoch referred to. Indeed, H.M. assured me, that it was at that time the very first measure on which they deliberated, and on which they decided.

"P.S.—The French Consul at Gottenburgh desired to know if the tricoloured flag would be received, to which H.M. replied: 'Que tout Pavillon légal en France sera reçu dans les Ports de Suède.'" *

DESPATCH NO. 40.

"*September* 17, 1830.

"My Lord,

"On Monday I had the honour of dining with the Royal Family, on which morning by the post the landing of the Prince de la Moskowa was

* "That all flags legalised in France should be received in Swedish ports."

announced as bearing a communication from the King of the French. This intelligence appeared unlooked for by H.M., and was evidently a source of discomfort to him and to the Prince Royal. However, the following morning information arrived from St. Petersburg that the Emperor had received General Atthalen, which information relieved H.M. and the Government from much perplexity. On Tuesday, at two o'clock p.m., the Prince de la Moskowa reached the capital and immediately announced himself to the Baron de Schulzenheim, who received him on the following evening and fixed his reception by the King for yesterday at eight p.m. The Prince accordingly presented himself and was graciously received. He told me that after delivering his letter, the King spoke with affection and feeling about his father, and with consideration of his former 'frère d'armes.' I did not gather that H.M. entered into any detail on the recent events in France, but spoke in general terms, principally adverting to, and commending the moderation of, the French people. The audience could not have exceeded half-an-hour when H.M. retired with the accustomed expressions of civility, adding that he would have the pleasure of seeing him again.

"It is obvious that the nomination of the Prince de la Moskowa on the present occasion has not been particularly acceptable to this country, he having been until very lately a lieutenant in the Swedish artillery, and being still in the list of the army as aide-de-camp to the Prince Royal, holding the rank of captain.

"The Prince de la Moskowa is charged with a similar communication for the King of Denmark.

"I had the honour to dine with the King on Wednesday, and after H.M. had dismissed his company, he detained me for a considerable time, during which he read over a good deal of his correspondence in the years 1812, 1813, and 1814, on the subject of France, and the changes then brought about by the coalition. His instructions to the Count de Löwentjelm previous to the Congress of Vienna, is a remarkable document and prophetic of the present times. H.M. graciously promised me a copy of this paper, which may possibly be deemed curious as the production of so extraordinary a person. . . ."

DESPATCH NO. 40.

"*September* 17, 1830.

". . . In voting the sum of the items of the Budget, it appears that the sum for the Army proposed by the King has suffered a diminution of about £6500; that for the Navy, a diminution of about £5000; that for Diplomacy, a diminution of about £2000. The whole sum voted for the general service of the State is about £370,000, and it would appear that there was a surplus of revenue on the three years from 1824 to 1827, of about £8000.

"The King has renewed the proposition that the veto should be conceded to H.M. This question involving a Paragraph of the Constitution, it is required that it be proposed at one ordinary Storthing, and discussed at the next. . . ."

DESPATCH NO. 43.

"*September* 24, 1830.

"My Lord,

"In the conviction that it was impossible from recollection to make an accurate report of your Lordship's despatch, addressed to the King's

Ambassadors at the Courts of St. Petersburg and Vienna, and to the King's Minister at Berlin, I decided, after communicating it to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, on reading its contents to the King and to the Prince Royal of Sweden, both of whom expressed in the strongest language their perfect accordance with every principle laid down by your Lordship. They remarked particularly on the clearness with which the opinions of my Government were conveyed, and on the soundness of the reasoning which determined the King, my master, to recognise the Duke of Orleans as King of the French. His Majesty and the Prince Royal, after an interesting discussion on the state of Europe, thanked me in the most cordial terms for my attention, and renewed the assurance of their adherence to British connexion. . . . In corroboration of my former opinions respecting the dependence on Russia in which H.S.M. had placed himself, I beg to relate the answer of the Russian Minister, the Count de Suchtelen, to my question, 'when Sweden would recognise the new order of things in France?' to which His Excellency replied, 'Elle suivra les traces de la Russie.'"

"There is not the least appearance of disquiet

in the capital, nor do I hear that there has been any movement of the people anywhere. . . ."

DESPATCH NO. 45.

"*October* 8, 1830.

"My Lord,

"The utmost tranquillity reigns throughout these countries; indeed, the people seem to take but little interest in the events, which, at this moment, endanger some of the Powers of Europe.

"The intelligence received last evening from Brussels, announcing the retreat of Prince Frederick, has made a very great sensation at this Court.

"I have not seen the King, but the conversation which Count Wetterstedt held with me subsequent to the arrival of the post, was replete with the most gloomy anticipations.

"I have, etc., etc.,

(Signed) "Bloomfield."

DESPATCH NO. 46.

"*October* 22, 1830.

"My Lord,

"The King and Council have of late been much occupied on the subject of establishing a precautionary measure of quarantine, to secure as

far as possible against the extension of the Cholera morbus in this country. His Majesty is said to have expressed considerable apprehension on the report of the malady having commenced its ravages at Moscow, and, under that apprehension, endeavoured to engage his Council to the adoption of some strong regulations in furtherance of his views.

"It appeared altogether to have escaped His Majesty that the supplies of his capital were almost wholly derived from the Duchy of Finland, particularly in the all-important article of fuel, which renders any restriction on commerce with that Duchy, of vital importance to Stockholm. The Director-General of Customs was summoned to attend the Council this day in order to devise some plan that may tend to quiet the King's fears, and secure, as far as human measures are capable, against the spread of this calamity."

DESPATCH NO. 47.

"*October* 29, 1830.

"My Lord,

"I learn from good authority that the King is labouring under great disquietude on the subject of a club which has recently been formed in this

capital. No doubt this reunion will soon become political, as at its head is one of the most violent leaders of the Opposition, Monsieur de Hjerta, formerly a Colonel in the Army, and during the last Diet a powerful opponent to the Government. Some years since an attempt to form a similar society was made, which His Majesty put down by a strong measure of police. This at the time was considered illegal. The society, however, submitted and dissolved itself. I now understand that by the Constitution, the King possesses no power to suppress these meetings, unless they are guilty of a breach of the peace or endanger the general safety by overt acts. No measure has yet been resorted to, and I doubt very much if His Majesty will interfere unless there be a violation of the law. It is impossible to form a decided opinion how far the spirit of this 'Reading Club' may spread. For myself I attach no importance to it. I do not learn that there is the slightest movement throughout the country.

"I have, etc., etc.,

(Signed) "BLOOMFIELD."

DESPATCH NO. 48.

"*November* 12, 1830.

"My Lord,

"I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that the political club intended to be established in this city (and referred to in my No. 27, October 29th), has failed for want of a sufficient subscription. I have reason to know that the King would not, in these times, have put this meeting down by police interference, though His Majesty was certainly much disturbed by the proposed association. The rapid strides to liberty, nay to license, making by the press in this capital, now pass unnoticed, whereas, not very long since, the newspaper publishers never escaped the severest exercise of the powers vested in the Censor for the development of comparatively insignificant principles. These countries are perfectly quiet. . . ."

DESPATCH NO. 51.

"*November* 26, 1830.

". . . H.M. pressed upon me his conviction, that order could not be restored in Europe, without the intervention of arms, and declared, that had he 100,000 men, and an adequate military chest, he would lend himself, *de cœur et d'âme*, to the

enterprise. H.M. dwelt on the imperative necessity of union and of assuming that attitude which should impose on the *Tribuns Anarchistes* and the *Demagogues couronnés* and shew them the danger of disturbing the peace of Europe, which it was the interest of all to preserve.

"His Majesty considered it most advisable, in the event of a military operation, that the small Germanic powers should be formed *comme avant-garde*, naming particularly Bavaria. I beg leave to observe, that H.M. appeared to entertain some doubt of the good faith of these countries. H.M., in the course of his long conversation, frequently remarked, that the great Powers of Europe had been twice within the walls of Paris, and that there was no reason to doubt that they would, if the case required it, establish their rule there a third time. H.M. then turned to his campaigns, which being irrelevant, I do not trouble your Lordship further, than to add, that H.M. charged me to communicate this conversation to your Lordship, and to the Duke of Wellington."

"VISCOUNT PALMERSTON." *

* Viscount Palmerston, appointed Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, 22nd November, 1830.

DESPATCH NO. 56.

"*December* 17, 1830.

"My Lord,

"The attention of this Government has been, during the last few days, solely directed to the alarming proceedings at Warsaw. The first intelligence reached this capital on Sunday last, by a messenger despatched from Berlin by the Swedish Minister, but we are still without accurate details on the subject, beyond those contained in *The Prussian State Gazette* of the 6th inst.

"The appearance of a deep-laid plot to assassinate the Grand Duke Constantine, and at once to exterminate the Russians, and those persons likely to remain faithful to the Imperial cause, has not failed to make a deep and anxious impression on the mind of His Swedish Majesty, and has excited his most earnest solicitude.

"I have not had an opportunity of seeing the King since the arrival of this intelligence, and am therefore unable to give your Lordship any details of His Swedish Majesty's private opinions, but I cannot here omit mentioning, that I believe the secret feelings of the inhabitants of Stockholm and of Sweden generally to be, satisfaction at any event

which may tend to weaken the influence and colossal power of Russia."

DESPATCH NO. 57.

"*December* 24, 1830.

"My Lord,

"M. de Tallenay, the French Chargé d'Affaires, has allowed me to peruse an interesting circular despatch, from Monsieur de Sebastiani, dated Paris, December the 2nd, and I conceive it my duty to mention its arrival here, as well as the satisfaction its tone has given to this Government.

"The Despatch details the state of France and her foreign relations, beginning by the negotiations at Brussels, and its warm advocacy of the Prince of Orange's claim to the throne of Belgium, has been hailed with pleasure here, as the course most likely to avert the growth of any hostile feeling in other Governments towards the person or relations of the new sovereign.

"The other points of this Despatch have no bearing upon the politics of this country. They advert principally to the Greek Question—and the attempt by the Constitutionalists to revolutionise the north of Spain. Piedmont, Naples, Algiers, and the

commercial relations with the South American States are each touched upon, and notwithstanding the intelligence that the standing army is to be of 500,000 men, and that, in case of need, all France was ready to arm herself in its rear, words could not convey a more peaceable or well-disposed feeling towards the whole of Europe. The latest intelligence from St. Petersburg is of the 29th of November, and I hear that a Russian circular has been received in which the Emperor Nicholas declares his intention not to offer any compromise whatever to his rebellious Polish subjects, and announces that 150,000 men have received orders to proceed forthwith to those frontiers.

"I have, etc., etc.,

(Signed) "BLOOMFIELD."

DESPATCH NO. 58.

"*December* 31, 1830.

". . . I had yesterday the honour of dining with His Swedish Majesty, and was most graciously received. After dinner the King called me to sit near him, and immediately directed his conversation to the state of Europe, expressing the most earnest desire to preserve unbroken the affection by which

he felt himself bound to England. His Majesty said he entertained the deepest veneration 'pour les cendres de George IV.,' by whom his adopted country as well as himself had been so powerfully and so effectually protected, adding that amongst his failings, that of ingratitude he hoped was not to be numbered. I thought this a favourable moment to introduce the substance of that part of your Lordship's despatch—No. 8—of the 10th instant, which being so personally complimentary to His Majesty, I knew would induce him to be more confidential, and also help to improve his feelings towards my Government, which had, of late, been much estranged from the true interests of his country by an unnatural intelligence with Russia. I had not miscalculated, for in the very many conversations which His Majesty has deigned to hold with me, in none has he been more completely without reserve, or I might venture to add more friendly; but to characterise it, I will use his own language: 'Mon Général, je m'abandonne à vous, comme si nous étions camarades en bivouac.' * His Majesty then directed his private secretary to

* "General, I give myself up to you as if we were comrades bivouacking together."

search out two letters lately received from Paris, and retired with me to another apartment. They were dated early in this month. His Majesty did not disclose the writer's name, but described him as having been of the ministry, and that, notwithstanding his removal, he constantly saw the King of the French and his former colleagues. I suspect the writer to be Général Gérard who was formally an aide-de-camp to the King, by whom the general was brought into public notice. The prevailing tone of these communications was the state of France; the necessity of moving with the times; and counselling His Swedish Majesty to pursue the wise course he had laid down for himself in the government of this country. These letters particularly dwelt on the necessity of foresight in all that regarded the expectations of the people, advising anticipation in every case where these expectations were reasonable. The state of France was much touched upon; the glorious results of the revolution, etc., but there was nothing new in these opinions. I therefore forbear troubling your Lordship with them. His Majesty then proceeded to recapitulate all the services he had rendered Sweden. The immense sums he has paid from his own funds

in aid of her financial embarrassments, and mentioned the miserable manner in which the Crown was provided for in its Civil List, stating that for the whole year's expenditure the grant equalled that of France for fourteen days. His Majesty expressed deep concern for the events and disorganisations which pervaded Europe, and observed that the Emperor Nicholas ought to have been informed of the tyranny and injustice to which his Polish subjects were exposed, and which have, in his belief, led to the present revolt in that portion of His Im. Majesty's dominions. I here remarked that although the tyranny and injustice alluded to might have been the ostensible cause, and have immediately led to the explosion, I traced the present unhappy state of that country to other sources.

" His Majesty immediately replied that certainly that people had much to complain of, but it was a people impassioned and carried away by 'entêtement et sentiment,' qualities which, in either case, unfit for self-government. His Majesty continued, that he had instructed his Minister at St. Petersburg to offer his opinions to the Emperor, that 'La Paix, La Paix, La Paix,' should be the device

on every banner, and that he trusted England would not be turned from the wise purpose she had adopted of maintaining peace, however great the difficulties, inseparable from the settlement of so many great questions, and in which so many great interests are involved. His Majesty dwelt much on the influence of the British Government not only in Europe but in the world, and which he several times repeated, adding, that that influence never was, and, he was convinced, never would be exercised but for 'le Bonheur de l'espèce humaine.' His Majesty concluded with the observation that his politics were strictly 'd'accord' with those of my Government. His Majesty made but few observations upon Belgium, and none on his own country; and recollecting that I had some English to present, and the hour being arrived, rose from his chair and with great condescension said: 'Nous vivons dans des temps orageux, plus difficiles encore que ceux de ma jeunesse. Ainsi, je désire causer avec vous toutes les semaines. Je vous prie de faire mes hommages au Roi et mes compliments à Lord Palmerston.'*

* "We live in stirring times, still more difficult than those of my youth. Therefore I wish to have a talk with you every

"It would be superfluous to offer to your Lordship much remark on the altered language of His Swedish Majesty since the report in my despatch of the 26th ult. I believe that the King holds our Constitution and Government in high veneration, and excepting when under the influence of personal gratification, would decide his politics by those of Great Britain. For some time, and particularly during the Prince Royal's visit to St. Petersburg last summer, the Emperor and his mission here have advantageously worked upon those feelings, and I am persuaded that the early part of your Lordship's despatch was well calculated to weaken the Russian influence and to strengthen that of England, for in aid of the latter comes the unanimous voice of the Swedish people. . . ."

DESPATCH NO. 59.

"*December* 31, 1830.

"My Lord,

"The watchfulness of the Chancellor of the Court over the liberty of the press has not been, since the rapid spread of Liberalism, so great as

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week. I pray you to present my homage to the King and my compliments to Lord Palmerston."

heretofore; but a few days ago his attention was directed to a small pamphlet translated from one lately published at Paris entitled, 'The True Catechism to be used in the Capital, and in the Departments, together with Theories on Faith, Love, and Hope. By an *Ex-Seminarist*.' This work has been suppressed by the proper authority, and I believe before many copies had been circulated. It was first sold for four skillings (about one penny) and afterwards distributed gratis; and some extracts that I have seen are blasphemous and tending to sedition, but though calculated to rouse the inflammability of a Frenchman are not likely to excite the minds of this people.

"The printer of this pamphlet is to be proceeded against by law. It is, however, very doubtful if the Government will succeed, as juries in these cases rarely convict. I have also to inform your Lordship that a sermon was preached last Sunday by a clergyman named Radberg, at a chapel attached to a charitable institution, in which inflammatory doctrines were delivered, and that the bishop of the diocese has demanded a copy of the sermon and interdicted the clergyman from further preaching.

"The offensive part of this discourse related to the commotions in Europe, and the impulse given to mankind in search of improvement and freedom, which he adapted to the state of Sweden.

"He alluded to the oppression of the poor by the rich, and observed that although Sweden was fortunate in her King, his power was not sufficient to restrain the undue influence exercised by the nobles over the people—continuing to the end in this political and liberal strain. I ought to observe that Mr. Radberg is called a *Pantheist*, and thus dissents in many of his opinions from the Established Lutheran Church of Sweden.

"It is impossible to say in what manner this person will ultimately be punished, and I cannot but regret the duty now devolving upon me, to report these two cases; at the same time that I express to your Lordships my earnest hopes and expectations that they will not affect the happy state of quiet still existing both in Sweden and Norway.

"I have, etc., etc.,

(Signed) "BLOOMFIELD."

DESPATCH NO. 2.

"*January* 21, 1831.

"My Lord,

"I had the honour to inform your Lordship in my Despatch No. 1 of the departure of a Cabinet messenger for St. Petersburg, and of the assurance given me by the Count de Wetterstedt that this messenger was not charged with any important communication.

"I have since, however, discovered from an undoubted source that His Swedish Majesty, with his usual desire to cultivate the friendship of the Emperor Nicholas, addressed His Imperial Majesty a letter bearing principally on the revolt in Poland, commending the wisdom which had dictated the Proclamation to the Polish nation, and the plan laid down by His Imperial Majesty for quelling the insurrection.

"Though I cannot attach much importance to this letter, it is impossible for me to withhold from your Lordship the remark that His Swedish Majesty has never allowed an occasion to pass of offering opinions or congratulations to the Emperor upon all events in which His Imperial Majesty took any great interest, and this disposition was never more apparent than during the Turkish War.

"I have not been able to obtain more precise information upon this subject, nor have I had an opportunity of discovering any further opinions of His Swedish Majesty upon the Polish Rebellion.

". . . In my different conversations with the Count de Wetterstedt upon this subject, His Excellency has invariably expressed his conviction that nothing can surpass the wisdom, prudence, and moderation of the Emperor, and his expectation that, although the Poles may make some resistance, the superior and overwhelming force that will be assembled on their frontier cannot fail to reduce the insurgents to subjection, and proclaim to Europe the devotion of the Russian army and nation to His Imperial Majesty's person. . . .

". . . Great anxiety has been manifested here in consequence of a report sent by the Governor of the Elfsborg district, that the greatest distress, arising from want of corn and provisions, prevails in that part of the country, and requires the immediate attention of the proper authorities. His Swedish Majesty has ordered M. de Skogman—a confidential functionary, and Secretary to the Finance Department—to proceed to Wennersborg and to make a report on the causes which have

so unexpectedly led to this calamity. I am also informed that 100,000 dollars (being part of the sum placed by the Diet at the disposal of His Swedish Majesty to be applied to these purposes) have been drawn from the bank, and will be employed in relieving the distress of that district, which, however, at this inclement season, will be attended with the greatest difficulty, as the country itself is not in a state to afford this supply, there being no redundancy anywhere within the kingdom. I also learn from the reports of the Norwegian harvest, that much distress is anticipated in that country.

"I have, etc., etc.,

(Signed) "BLOOMFIELD."

DESPATCH NO. 3.

"*January* 28, 1831.

"MY LORD,

"I had, last Monday evening, the honour of a long conversation with His Swedish Majesty. After discussing the affairs of Poland in the same strain as reported in my Despatch of 31st December, His Majesty passed on to those of Belgium and their connection with France. His Majesty spoke of the present conflicting parties, regretting the weakness of that which espoused the cause of

the Prince of Orange. He seemed to look with much and earnest solicitude to the success of the Conference in London, and spoke with great confidence on the wisdom of English councils in all that regarded good government. Hoping that the other powers would join in the views taken by the British Cabinet for the settlement of this most important question. I did not discover that there were any latent feelings connected with his native country in the ultimate disposal of Belgium. Indeed His Majesty was quite explicit that in the general interest, that connection could not be formed. The King then adverted to the disorders which had unhappily shown themselves in England where, for Europe's sake, it is so necessary to preserve peace and strength. He, however, learned with great satisfaction that the law had had its due course, and that by its prompt and salutary application order had been restored. His Majesty, after passing a very high eulogium on the British Government, and his desire to cultivate the strictest and most intimate relations with England, charged me 'De faire mes hommages au Roi, et mes amitiés à Milord Palmerston.'

"I have, etc., etc.,

(Signed) "BLOOMFIELD."

DESPATCH NO. 4.

"*February* 4, 1831.

". . . I mentioned the departure of the Secretary of State for the Finance Department for the Western Provinces, and in continuation of that subject I beg to inform your Lordship that M. de Skogman returned to Stockholm a few days ago, and reports more satisfactorily on the distress in the Elfsborg and Gottenburg districts than was anticipated. It appears that the deficiency in the supply of corn is not the true evil, but that it lies in the difficulty of finding employment for the labouring classes, who, consequently, are without the means of acquiring the necessaries of life at any price. . . ."

DESPATCH NO. 5.

"*February* 11, 1831.

". . . A Royal proclamation was addressed to the authorities in the Elfsbourg district on the 7th inst., calling upon them to examine, with great care, the wants of the lower orders, and announcing that every facility should be given towards their alleviation, and that 12,000 tons of corn will be

supplied from the Royal magazines. I cannot, however, be persuaded that the distress is so immediate, as His Majesty has not had recourse to the only means by which relief would be effectual, viz.: a free importation of foreign corn, and a restraint placed on the distilleries of the country. The consumption by the latter is enormous. . . ."

DESPATCH NO. 6.

"*February* 18, 1831.

"My Lord,

"I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch of 18th ult., marked Circular, announcing the determination of His Majesty's Government to pursue a system of rigid economy in every department of the State, by reducing every branch of expenditure to the lowest limits which may be compatible with the real interests of the public service, and conveying His Majesty's pleasure that the presents which it has been heretofore customary to give in His Majesty's name to the Plenipotentiaries and Chanceries of Foreign States upon the Exchange of the Ratifications of Treaties and Conventions, etc., shall be henceforward altogether discontinued.

"In compliance with your Lordship's instructions I immediately communicated to Count de Wetterstedt the rule which His Majesty has thought fit to adopt, prohibiting His Majesty's Diplomatic servants from accepting any present which the King of Sweden might be graciously disposed to bestow on them, and I shall not fail to note the decision for my guidance upon every occasion on which any such question may arise. . . ."

DESPATCH NO. 8.

"*February* 18, 1831.

". . . I have the honour to transmit the copy of a *note verbale* from the Minister for Foreign Affairs, made in consequence of my representations, wherein His Excellency informs me that His Swedish Majesty has been graciously pleased to order the restoration of a sum of money claimed by the owners of the British ship *Hygeia* as overcharged by the Quarantine Office at Gottenburg in the year 1828. I have been for two years endeavouring to obtain this claim, and am at last gratified by the entire success of my exertions for the due protection of our commerce. . . ."

TO SIR GEORGE SHEE.

'STOCKHOLM, *February* 25, 1831.

"SIR,

"I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of 21st ult., marked Circular, instructing me to transmit, for the information of Viscount Palmerston, a statement of the privileges and exemptions allowed by the Court of Sweden to the representatives of foreign powers. The Diplomatic Body are exempt from all civil and municipal taxes, and have the unlimited privilege of introducing foreign goods, for their own use, free of duty.

"No tax whatever is paid for their servants, foreign or Swedish, and every person employed by the missions enjoys a similar privilege. The Swedish servants, though not subject to the payment of taxes, are, however, liable to the conscription, and are amenable to the laws in all civil and criminal offences, upon the proper application being made to the Minister, or Chargé d'Affaires, in whose service they may happen to be employed.

"I have, etc., etc.,

(Signed) "BLOOMFIELD."

DESPATCH NO. 9.

"*March* 4, 1831.

". . . A bitter and offensive article appeared on the 23rd ult., in a Stockholm newspaper called the *Aftonbladet*, a translation of which I have the honour to enclose. From its ironical allusions to the extracts from the *St. Petersburg Journal*, inserted in the Stockholm official newspapers, it has been sequestered by the Chancellor of the Court, and the editor is to be brought to trial, as offending against a law respecting the liberty of the Press, which forbids equivocal or disrespectful allusions to foreign Sovereigns, etc. . . ."

DESPATCH NO. 10.

"*March* 11, 1831.

"My Lord,

"The resistance hitherto made by the Poles has been a cause of extreme anxiety to His Swedish Majesty, and I have lately had a long conversation upon the subject with a member of the Council of State, which I think it my duty to submit to your Lordship.

"The King watches the arrival of every post from Hamburgh, expecting to learn nothing but the almost unopposed advance of the Russian troops,

and finding the Poles capable of thus holding out, His Swedish Majesty turns back to the position of his own dominions, and looks with the utmost dread towards Norway. The scarcity of provisions which has already manifested itself in some of the provinces has been one cause of uneasiness, and added to the example of Poland, the prospect fills the King's mind with most uncomfortable forebodings.

"I am told that His Majesty is scarcely occupied on any other subject; indeed, a mind ever open to suspicion, as is His Majesty's, must be deeply affected at the present appearance of affairs, and the friendship and attachment to the Emperor Nicholas, avowed on every occasion by the King and Prince Royal, naturally calls for the expression of great concern. Were I, however, to venture an opinion on the state of Norway, I should at once assert that I consider no revolutionary movement is to be expected as long as His Swedish Majesty desists from demanding further concessions from the Norwegians. They are contented with their Constitution. If any inroad be attempted upon it, or any increase of supplies required, then perhaps opposition might be looked for, but I cannot believe that there exists any serious desire to be again united

with Denmark, or to become totally independent of Sweden. The Norwegian Storthing is so liberally constituted, and the country, by itself, would be so feeble, that one is led to conclude, that if a Monarchical form of government is to be maintained, the Storthing cannot seek further concession. The disloyalty (as it has been called) of this assembly has entirely proceeded from their determination not to yield any essential point of their Constitution. They ask nothing—and will yield nothing.

"Besides these causes of disquietude, the Press has been unremitting in putting forth articles against the Government, and I have to inform your Lordship that a work containing several official documents relative to the history of Sweden has been published within these few days, giving *in extenso*, amongst other interesting records, a report of the Secret Committee of the Diet of 1809—drawn up by the Count de Wetterstedt (present Minister for Foreign Affairs) on the then pending negotiation with Russia, in which the strongest feeling of animosity is expressed towards that country, and hatred towards the Emperor Alexander and his *iniquitous* proceedings during the war in Finland.

"The book is now under prosecution upon

eighteen different charges, and I am told that the Government have a strong case against the publisher, as there exists in the Constitution an article forbidding the publication of the reports of the Secret Committee. These continual prosecutions, nevertheless, bear so arbitrary a colour that they are become extremely unpopular.

"There is but little doubt that the King's feelings are intimately connected with the present prosecutions, His Majesty dreading that any comparison between the sentiments of the Swedish Cabinet of 1809 and that of the present day should go forth to Russia. To avert the possibility of such an occurrence, His Majesty thus gives another proof of his devotion to Russia, and of his determination to seek every opportunity of proclaiming to the world the friendly intercourse now existing between the two Courts.

"I have, etc., etc.,

Signed) "BLOOMFIELD."

DESPATCH NO. 11.

"*March* 18, 1831.

"MY LORD,

"In the Despatch, which I had the honour to address to your Lordship by the last post, I

mentioned that this Government were prosecuting a book, containing some interesting documents relative to the negotiations with Russia, at the period of the Finland war. I have since been examining this work, and have procured the translation of a few passages, which I have the honour to enclose. They contain some observations joined to the protocol of the Council of State, held on the 30th August, 1809, and are drawn up by the Count de Wetterstedt.

"Your Lordship will perceive a most striking difference between the politics of Sweden at that period and at the present time, but nothing is more remarkable than the complete revolution which has taken place in the sentiments of the very Minister who composed the enclosed paper. It may be proper for me to inform your Lordship that by the laws of Sweden, the publication of the reports of the Secret Committee of the Diet, or of the protocols of the Council of State, is forbidden until after a lapse of fifty years from the original date.

"I have, etc., etc.,"

(Signed.)

DESPATCH NO. 12.

"*March* 25, 1831.

"My Lord,

"The stand made by the Poles against the advance of the Russian army was so completely unexpected by this Court that the Ministers of His Swedish Majesty are evidently much embarrassed.

"The public feeling in all classes has been greatly excited, and the deeply-rooted national antipathy to Russia, which the tone of the Court had in some degree mitigated, is now openly expressed. I am also informed that several officers of the guards have incautiously allowed themselves to speak in favour of the Poles, wishing that their arms may be crowned with success, and that a complaint has in consequence been made by the Russian Minister, setting forth the indecency of such a proceeding.

"This application has not however been attended to by the Swedish Government, nor indeed could any other result have been anticipated in a country where the Sovereign cannot entirely direct the course of public opinion.

"I have, etc., etc."

DESPATCH NO. 14.

"My Lord, "*April* 8, 1831.

"The last German post brought to the Swedish Government the account of the failure of the Bill before Parliament relative to the timber trade, and it is my duty to inform your Lordship that this event is a matter of the greatest interest to Sweden, and more particularly to Norway. Count de Wetterstedt, on Monday last, expressed his extreme regret at the division in the House of Commons on the 18th ult., and as the timber trade of this kingdom is, next to the iron, its principal export and source of wealth, your Lordship can at once understand the dismay caused by the account alluded to.

"The proposed change in the laws regulating the importation of timber would most materially benefit the great proprietors of land in Sweden and Norway, and this Government has ever been urging the Government of His Majesty to make some alteration which would permit the fair competition of the staple commodity of their country in the English market.

"I have frequently had occasion to mention the existence of great distress, and want of corn and provisions in the western provinces. This has at

length increased to such an extent that the Government has permitted the sale of foreign bonded corn until 1st June, in the principal towns of the distressed districts at the following duty :

Per Barrel.	
Wheat	1 Dollar B^{co}.
Rye	24 Schillings.
Oats	6 ditto.
Other Corn . . .	12 ditto.
Pease	24 ditto.

"I have, etc., etc.,

(Signed) "B."

DESPATCH NO. 15.

"*April* 8, 1831.

"My Lord,

"Count de Wetterstedt has mentioned to me the arrival of a Despatch of the 18th ult. from Count de Löwenheim, Swedish Minister at Paris, announcing a satisfactory interview between M. de Sebastiani and Lord Granville, asked for by the latter in consequence of a previous one between M. de Sebastiani and the Prussian Minister relative to the intentions of the French Government upon the entrance of the Austrian troops into the Roman States.

"The declaration of Lord Granville to M. de Sebastiani (according to Count Löwenheim) appears

to have satisfied the Swedish Government that England would unite herself with Austria and the other Powers in case of any aggression by France, or any attempt to render assistance to the revolted states of Italy.

"I cannot refrain from announcing the satisfaction, nay, I might also say joy, of the Swedish Minister for Foreign Affairs whilst detailing to me these particulars, coupling them as he did with the account of the late change of administration in France, which he looked upon as a most happy event, and one most calculated to preserve the peace of Europe.

"I have, etc., etc.,

(Signed) "B."

DESPATCH NO. 18.

"*April* 22, 1831.

". . . The Polish cause almost exclusively occupies the public mind. The arrival of each foreign post is looked for with the greatest eagerness, and any account unfavourable to the Russians is hailed with satisfaction. Absurd reports of every kind are continually invented here, but being for the most part unfounded I refrain from repeating

them to your Lordship. They, however, tend to prove that this people, though unable to render any assistance to the Polish cause, follow their movements with the best wishes for their success.

"Two persons arrived last week at Gottenburgh in the Harwich packet, Mr. Christopher Wolmer, a Pole, and Mr. Charles Worms, a Frenchman, both with passports from the alien office. Count Rosen, the Governor, suspecting they were Polish agents, detained Mr. Wolmer until he had communicated with the Government, but permitted Mr. Worms, the Frenchman, to proceed to Stockholm, and he has arrived here. The Government highly approved of Count Rosen's prudence, and Count de Wetterstedt has told me that orders have been sent for Mr. Wolmer not to be permitted to come to Stockholm, but to proceed to Copenhagen, that being the most direct line to Cracow, his avowed destination.

"A public dinner has taken place at Gottenburgh in honour of the Poles; but the Government, being active in their exertions to counteract the object of this meeting, succeeded in dissuading many persons from attending. Very few people, and those principally uninfluential merchants were present, and the attempt is considered as a complete failure.

"The Marquis de Dalmatie had a public audience of H.S.M. on Monday, 18th inst., and delivered his letters of credence as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from the King of the French. He has been remarkably well received at Court, and had the honour of dining yesterday with His Majesty."

May 6.—Owing to the want of corn and consequent distress which has increased to a frightful extent in some of the provinces, H.S.M. has at length issued a proclamation by which all the distilleries throughout Sweden are to be stopped from the first of June to the last of September next. Had this measure been adopted at the first appearance of scarcity it would not then have been looked upon as a hardship by the agricultural interest; but the Government permitted the impression to be generally made that the distilleries would not be stopped, and consequently much dissatisfaction has been expressed at this unlooked-for proclamation.

I had the honour to inform your Lordship in my Despatch of the 8th ult. that foreign bonded corn was permitted to be sold at a low duty in the distressed districts, and I have now to announce

that that permission is granted for the free importation of 20,000 tons of foreign corn in the ports of Gottenburg, Halmstadt, and Warberg.

The effect produced by these proclamations is far from satisfactory to the Government, the merchants publicly declaring that the latter proclamation is intended to save some favoured individual who is already prepared to make the shipment of the required quantity, and who will be enabled to land it before time is given for competition.

These subjects of disquietude have also been increased by the appearance of between 4000 and 5000 labourers asking for employment at the fortification of Wanäs. They had been drawn thither by an advertisement in the public papers calling on persons desirous of work to apply to the director of this fortification, and an immense number of men consequently presented themselves.

H.S.M. has ordered every accommodation to be provided for them, and has sent two of his officers to report on the state in which they are found. As many as possible are to be employed at the works, but the grants of the Diet for this purpose is so small that the King has added 50,000 dollars banco (about £4000) to be applied for their immediate relief.

May 27th.—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch with respect to the regulations to be enforced in the ports of Great Britain with regard to all vessels arriving from the northern ports of Europe should the cholera morbus make its appearance on the coasts of the Baltic. I have the honour to forward the translation of a proclamation which has just been issued which indicates a due regard to the magnitude of the dangers which threaten these countries, and it shall be my care to observe if suitable measures are adopted. It is, however, much to be feared that the finances of this country may circumscribe these measures and render them but little effectual on such a coast as that of Sweden. Indeed, I have reason to know that a general quarantine establishment is not contemplated by the Swedish Government.

Two quarantine establishments are already found, one on the island of Gothland and the other at Hasslö, near Sandhamn, the principal entrance into the port of Stockholm. Besides these establishments I have strongly urged an extensive employment of gunboats by which, on this very indented coast, a more general security will be obtained,

and as these boats are employed a portion of each summer for the purpose of drill and exercise, there will be less increase of expense and a more efficient protection. A vessel is cruising this immediate coast to warn the trade coming from the suspected districts, and another has been sent to the Gulf of Finland with similar instructions.

We have no account of the further progress of the disease; should Finland be infected it would be impossible to convey to your Lordship the distress which this capital would experience by any interruption of its commercial intercourse with that Duchy, depending, as it does, upon it for its entire supply of fuel, and for the principal necessaries of life consumed by the poor.

On Tuesday, 31st of May, the Prince Royal was proclaimed Sole Regent; this is the first occasion on which H.R.H. has been appointed Sole Regent. The powers of government having hitherto been vested in a Regency composed of H.R.H. and two members of the Council.

June 17th.—Accounts having been received from St. Petersburg that the Cholera morbus had broken out at Archangel, immediate orders and instructions were despatched by the Norwegian authorities to

Drontheim and Christiania for the establishing, with the utmost vigilance, quarantine regulations in the Norwegian ports, particularly the coast of Finland, and those ports in commercial relation with the ports on the White Sea.

CHAPTER XVII.

Official Despatches—Conversation with the King—His Opinions—Quarantine Establishment at Känsö—Inefficiency of Lighthouses—Letters of the Emperor Nicholas about Poland—Corn-laws—Bernadotte's Views respecting any Misunderstanding between Russia and England—Quarantine Regulations—Incorporation by Russia of the Kingdom of Poland—Sickness among Horses—Reform—New System of Naval Defence—Visit to Christiania and Gothenburg—Opening of the Götha Canal—Lord Howard de Walden appointed to succeed Lord Bloomfield—Removal of the Body of Gustavus Adolphus—Belgium—Arrest of Barons Vegesach and Düben on the Charge of High Treason—Egyptian Successes over the Turks—Sale of the Island of St. Bartholomew—Opposition of the Norwegian Storthing—Audience to take leave of the King, and present Letters of Recall.

DESPATCH NO. 31.

"*July* 18, 1831.

"I was summoned by a note from Count de Wetterstedt to the Foreign Office. . . . His Excellency began by alluding to the rumours with which our newspapers were filled, that the Baltic was the destination of the squadron now fitting out

at Spithead. That the King felt much anxiety on the subject, and authorised him to request that I would ask the question, for that H.M. was most anxious to make all arrangements that might be in his power for the supplies and accommodation of the fleet of his old and faithful ally ; and further, that being a 'Puissance Riveraine,' he naturally felt a deep interest in the assembling of such a force in his neighbourhood. H.Ex. was particularly anxious to guard himself against any misconstruction on my part as to the extent of this inquiry, which was confined solely to the Baltic waters. H.Ex. then spoke on the subject of M. de Bourgoin, who arrived here on his way to St. Petersburg, where he is named, *pro tempore*, Minister Plenipotentiary from the French Court. M. de Bourgoin dined with the King, who honoured him with a long audience in presence of the Marquis de Dalmatie. After running over the state of France, of which M. de Bourgoin gave a brilliant picture, he adverted to Belgium, and the probability of a settlement of that most anxious question ; that the Polish struggle was deeply felt by the King, who touched upon the possibility of a successful mediation to arrest the further effusion of blood so afflicting to humanity,

and so dangerous to the general peace of Europe. M. de Bourgoin then hinted at the King's peculiar position, and that much might be expected were his opinion favourable to mediation and exerted to that end with His Imperial Majesty of Russia.

"Après avoir parlé des affaires de l'Europe et des malheurs qui la menacent; après avoir déploré cette effusion de sang humain qui l'afflige, et qui s'étendra encore si on ne parvient pas à l'arrêter, le Roi ajouta: 'La Suède n'est pas puissante, mais elle a maintenu son indépendance dans des crises difficiles; lorsque Napoléon voulait lui dicter des lois et lorsque la Sainte Alliance au plus fort de son influence cherchait à l'entraîner dans l'orbite de ses décisions. J'agirais de même si les mêmes circonstances se présenteroient. Je suis l'ami de mes amis, mais je ne dépends que de moi et des lois de mon pays. La Suède et moi, nous ne désirons que de conserver la tranquillité intérieure et les relations pacifiques au dehors. Sa population est à la vérité belliqueuse, mais ses besoins réels reposent sur l'activité non interrompue du commerce, et ma politique, d'accord avec ma conscience, doit naturellement se baser là-dessus. Or, on ne me provoquera pas d'aucun côté à sortir de cet état

de neutralité, et si on veut m'y forcer je me confie à la Providence, et j'espère qu'elle me donnera les moyens de repousser des attaques injustes ; mais, si je puis rendre un service à l'humanité, qu'on m'en indique les moyens. Je serai heureux de pouvoir y contribuer.' *.

"I had the honour of dining with H.S.M. on Wednesday, when his conversation turned on the critical aspect of Europe, deploring the unsettled state of the public mind, but trusting in the wisdom of the British Government, in conjunction with her allies, to restore order, and secure those institutions which form the stability of all."

July 22nd.—With reference to my Despatch of July 18th, I have the satisfaction of confirming the anticipations I therein formed, for immediately on my arrival at the Palace, the King took me into an adjoining apartment and recapitulated the

* "Sweden is not powerful, but she has maintained her independence in difficult crises ; when Napoleon wished to dictate laws to her, and the Holy Alliance, at the time its influence was strongest, sought to drag her within the orbit of its decisions. I should act in the same manner were the same circumstances to arise. I am the friend of my friends, but I only depend upon myself and the laws of my country. Sweden and I, we only desire to preserve internal tranquillity, and external pacific relations. Her population is, in truth, warlike, but her real wants

whole subject communicated to me by Count Wetterstedt, adding, however, some more minute details on the very slender supplies at present in the arsenal of Carlscrona, and therefore the almost impossibility of refitting a large ship in the case of serious accident. H.M. drew back my attention to the newly organised and organising principle of coast defence by a large force of gun-boats, to which had been directed all the means of the country, and which he feared had occasioned somewhat of neglect in making an adequate provision for the wants of the larger class of ships. H.M. showed great solicitude as to whether the British Fleet was destined to the Baltic. This subject appeared to press upon H.M. considerably; at the same time he was evidently desirous that I should assure your Lordship of his firm resolution to preserve a strict neutrality, distinctly stating that Sweden's

depend upon the uninterrupted activity of her commerce; and my politics, in harmony with my conscience, must naturally be based thereon. Therefore no one shall induce me, from any quarter, to give up my neutrality; and if any one wishes to force me to do so, I should entrust my cause to Providence, and I hope it would give me the means of resisting unjust attacks; but if I can render service to the cause of humanity, let the means be indicated. I should be happy to have it in my power to contribute to them."

best interests would be secured by the friendship of England. H.M. declared that it had been his most anxious endeavour to impress these opinions on his son ever since H.R.H. was capable of understanding them. He added some observations on his own origin: "That war had elevated him, and that although he had no fear of its dangers, he felt it to be the greatest scourge that God could inflict on any country, and that its most brilliant success could never be commensurate with the evils which it entails." His Majesty concluded by desiring me to make known these sentiments to your Lordship and to "présenter des Hommages au Roi et ses civilités à Milord Palmerston." H.M. spoke at such length that the Queen and the whole Court were kept waiting dinner an hour beyond the time of assembling.

August 1st.—I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that the report from the Baron de Palmstjerna, Swedish Minister at St. Petersburg, having announced the cholera to have appeared near Wiborg, that port has been declared to be infected, and the coast of Finland from the Kymen River to Hangö Head to be suspected. In addition

to the above precautions, all communications between the Duchy and any of the Swedish ports north of Gifle is prohibited, and an increased naval force is stationed in the Gulf of Bothnia to enforce the strict observance of these regulations.

The Governor-General of Stockholm has issued detailed orders for the guidance of the inhabitants should the disease manifest itself in the capital. These orders principally recommend ventilation and cleanliness, and the common directions in such cases. The King has appropriated a small island in the harbour, and two other stations for the accommodation of the sick to which H.M. will annex others, should unfortunately the malady extend itself. It is the intention of the Government in case of necessity, to form a military cordon, extending some distance into the interior, and everything is ready, awaiting events, to move for the execution of that service.

It appears that above 100 vessels are performing quarantine at Christiansand, and it is most satisfac tory to add that by the latest reports there was not one case of sickness on board.

Having promised to spend a few days with the Count de Wetterstedt, I thought it desirable

from there to visit the Känsö quarantine establishment, which being a general station for the Baltic trade, becomes of great interest to England. I have the satisfaction to inform your Lordship that although the store-houses and hospitals may not be as extensive as one could desire, they are perfectly adapted to the service on a limited scale. Two vessels only can discharge their cargoes for fumigation, etc., etc., at the same time, but so perfectly organised and constructed are the several buildings that it is impossible for those on shore to endanger by communication, the health of the garrison and of the inhabitants. Twenty fine vessels were at anchor, and although some men of the crews had died of cholera previous to leaving Riga, there was not one case in the harbour. Since the addition of Vaugö, 150 vessels can ride in perfect safety under the inspection of this establishment.

I propose going to Wazberg to-morrow, which is a point of great anxiety to me. I have been long in correspondence with the Swedish Government on the subject of the defective state of the lights on that coast, and assurances were given to me by Count Wetterstedt that they should be placed on a proper footing in the course of the summer. I now

find that even a beginning has not been made in this work of humanity, and that we may look forward to the same shipwreck disasters as those we had to deplore at the close of the Baltic navigation last year. The neglect of this important work becomes now of aggravated danger, as, should it so happen that vessels coming from infected districts fall a sacrifice to this unpardonable negligence, there are no means by which the crews can be prevented from penetrating into the country in every direction. I cannot therefore help observing to your Lordship the expediency of withdrawing the trade earlier this year from these districts than on former occasions. The total inefficiency of the light and pilot establishments, rendering danger at all times imminent, is now peculiarly distressing from the fear of introducing the disease which threatens us.

August 13th. . . . I regret to hear that the cholera morbus has made its way into the town of Wiborg. Further precautionary measures will be resorted to as regards the intercourse between this country and Finland, and Admiral the Count de Cronstedt, an influential member of the quarantine commission, has proposed an absolute prohibition of trade with that Duchy, excepting in articles of food

and fuel. This proposition, however, has not been agreed to by the other members.

I discover a very strong sympathy in favour of the King of Holland. Indeed H.S.M. has more than once impressed me with the opinion that he by no means approves that the direction of the affairs of small countries should be conducted by great and comparatively colossal powers, and I certainly gather from Count Wetterstedt's language that such interference is viewed with much jealousy, as forming a most dangerous precedent.

. . . It was not difficult to discover that the brilliant successes of the Prince of Orange over the Belgians were satisfactory to H.S.M., and that he continues to regard with much jealousy the whole of the proceedings as connected with the departure of Belgium from Holland.

September 9th.—I regret to inform your Lordship that the cholera having reached Hängo Head and Abo, the whole of the coast, including the Islands and the Tornea river, is declared infected.

It would appear that the great mortality in Finland has been in the garrison of Sweaborg and the Port of Wiborg and has mainly fallen on the Russian garrison and crews. This circumstance

I attribute as well to the greater cleanliness of the Finnish people as to the superior quality of their food, with which I was myself much struck whilst travelling through those countries.

October 7th.—I had the honour to deliver the letters from the King, my master, to the King of Sweden, on the safe delivery of Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal of a son, when I dined with Their Majesties, and I did not fail to accompany the communication by suitable compliments in the King's name. Their Majesties were particularly gracious, and the King added he trusted the young Prince would grow up in those sentiments which it was his most ardent desire to cultivate in the minds of his grandchildren, "une confiance illimitée et une alliance interminable entre les deux pays." His Majesty deigned to hold a very long conversation with me, which was generally directed to the events in Poland and to the state of France. His Majesty referred to a letter he had received from the Emperor of Russia on the fate of Warsaw, which letter was autograph, and was presented by the Russian Minister on the previous day. His Majesty was evidently much gratified by this communication, and expressed his inward satisfaction at the termi-

nation of that struggle, observing "que Sa M. I. montra cette longanimité dont elle a donné tant de preuves. Que Sa Majesté elle-même disoit que la rebellion étant domptée, ce sont maintenant les lois du royaume de Pologne qui parleront."* The King seemed to attach much importance to this sentence in the Emperor's letter. He, however, regretted that the title of Warsaw should have been conferred on the Commander-in-Chief, Prince Paskewitch, and on this subject H.M. observed: "Les Rois ne sont que des hommes et font des fautes tout comme les autres."† He, however, exempted the Emperor from personal blame in bestowing this distinguished mark of his approbation, ascribing it entirely to the Russian anti-Polish feeling of his military *entourage*. "Car," continued the King, "ma conviction est que S.M.I. auroit désiré que toutes traces de l'insurrection fussent éteintes, plutôt que de les avoir perpétuées de cette manière."‡ H.M. censured the

* "H. I. Majesty will shew the forbearance of which he has given so many proofs. And that His Majesty himself said that the rebellion having been overcome, it is now the laws of the Kingdom of Poland which must speak."

† "Kings are only men, and make mistakes like others."

‡ "For," continued the King, "my conviction is that H.I.M. would have desired that all traces of the insurrection should be extinguished, rather than have them perpetuated in such a manner."

conduct of France and the desire so strongly manifested by her to prolong the stay of her troops in Belgium. He lamented that eternal state of excitement in which she continued, and which she was endeavouring to extend all over Europe by sapping her ancient institutions, and weakening, if not overthrowing, the order of things established, and on which the safety of the whole depended. He was very strong in his language, and he added: "Si la France veut la guerre, qu'elle la fasse contre une Puissance, l'Angleterre, la Russie, etc., etc., cela s'entend; mais de vouloir ébranler toute l'Europe est trop fort, et montre un manque de caractère qui ne lui fait pas honneur." * H.M. during this latter part of the conversation appeared under particular excitement which has since somewhat explained itself to me, the Chancellor of the Court having informed me by the King's desire of a circumstance which was calculated to perplex and irritate him greatly. It appears that some days previous a report was

* "If France wishes for war, let her make it against a Power like England, Russia, etc., etc.; that could be understood, but it is too bad to desire to shake the whole of Europe, and shows a want of principle which is not to her credit."

received from the Swedish Vice-Consul at Hâire of the sailing of a vessel for the Baltic loaded with ammunition and arms. By her papers she was destined for the island of Gothland and had eighteen passengers on board described as bakers, butchers, and such like. This vessel entered the Sound but did not touch at Gothland, and is reported as having recrossed the Sound leaving no conjecture of her present intentions. The same Vice-Consul reports another vessel of still larger size as now loading with the like cargo, and also destined for the island of Gothland. The Government is further informed that the Prince de la Moskowa and General Favier are the ostensible parties in this enterprise. The opinion entertained by His Majesty and by this Government is that the shipments in question were intended to be conveyed, if possible, to the Poles, and the attempt of making a Swedish dependency serviceable to this object has very much offended His Majesty, as being a breach of good faith, and of the rights of nations, and moreover calculated to compromise him with his faithful ally the Emperor of Russia.

October 7th.—By proclamation of the 1st inst.

the duty on the importation of corn has been considerably lowered, and that on the export so much raised as to render it highly improbable that any quantity will leave this country. Indeed, I should not be surprised at its prohibition altogether, as there is a general and violent outcry against the permission granted to the distilleries to continue their working until the 1st of January, 1832.

October 22nd.—The accounts from Abo up to the 11th inst., inclusive, announce 127 persons attacked with cholera, of whom eighty-one have died and twenty recovered. The report is accompanied with the fact that the disease was brought to that town by a person coming from Helsingfors, and who had, during his journey, been suffering from slight symptoms of cholera which broke out on his arrival.

The melancholy accounts from Hamburgh have made a very great sensation here. That port, with all the towns on the Elbe, are declared to be infected, and the whole of the coast of Holstein, including the islands and all places situated on both banks of the Schleswig-Holstein Canal, of the River Eiden, and of the River Weser, are

declared to be suspected. Every possible precaution has been taken to weaken the effect of the malady in the event of its breaking out in this country; and, as the winter is now approaching, I trust that we may experience less mortality than has hitherto characterised the spread of the disease.

November 11*th.*—I have had the honour to deliver His Majesty's answers to the King of Sweden's letters of congratulation on His Majesty's (King William IV.) coronation. H.S.M. resumed those expressions of devotedness to the King, my master, which I have so frequently reported to your Lordship; but, on the present occasion, His Majesty added with great emphasis: "Que si, par malheur, il arrivoit une mésintelligence entre la Russie et l'Angleterre, et que moi je ne pouvois garder la neutralité, alors je me rangerais du côté de mon ancien et fidèle allié, le Roy votre maître."* And further charged me to convey his homage to the King, and his anxious desire for the prosperity and glory of the British nation.

* "If, unfortunately, a misunderstanding should arise between Russia and England, and I was unable to maintain my neutrality, I should place myself on the side of my old and faithful ally the King your master."

I have faithfully reported the King's conversation on the important decision to which he would come in the case of war between Russia and England, and that Sweden's neutrality could not be maintained. I believe that, whatever might be the indecision of His Majesty's character, he would by the nation be forced to adopt the course he now proposes, though I am of opinion that he would make large sacrifices before he so decided. At the close of my audience His Majesty entered upon the affairs of Belgium, which he hoped might terminate without disturbing the peace of Europe. In discussing the subject, His Majesty did not conceal his feeling of disappointment that, as a subscribing party to the Congress of Vienna, he had not been called upon during the present deliberations, observing that it must ever be the interest of great powers to abstain from wounding the susceptibility of those of the second order. His Majesty uttered these expressions with much vehemence, I might perhaps say with much irritation.

November 15th.—I have the honour to inform your Lordship that immediately on the arrival here of the official notification that the cholera had

broken out in the town of Sunderland and Newcastle-on-Tyne, the Quarantine Commission assembled; and, after much discussion, decided that the English coast, from the mouth of the Mersey and Humber Rivers to the frontier of Scotland, is declared infected, and the whole of England, Ireland, and Scotland to be suspected.

At this late period of our navigating season this restriction on British trade will, I should hope, produce but little, if any, embarrassment; and, surrounded as we are by this pestilential disease, we cannot be surprised at the sweeping precaution taken by the Swedish commission. The reports from Abo continue to improve.

. . . I think public feeling is much tranquillised, and it is to be hoped that the people may not return to the habitual use of ardent spirits, which, from the apprehended coming of the cholera has much diminished and given improved health to the lower classes.

Another striking benefit has been derived in the general cleanliness and ventilation which have been strongly recommended and universally adopted throughout this country.

January 13th, 1832.—Should the cholera un-

happily extend to this country, we must expect its ravages to be in a proportion beyond that hitherto experienced in any other. Every article of life having got up to an unprecedented price, and the lower orders being consequently exposed to great privations.

This state of things has not been without having its influence upon the morals of the poor and unemployed, and I regret to say that burglaries have of late been of much more frequent occurrence. Still it is difficult not to admit, and perhaps envy, the general contentment and tranquillity which reigns throughout this country.

March 20th.—From the Count de Wetterstedt's letter, a copy of which I enclose, your Lordship will perceive that the maximum of ten days from infected places, and the minimum of five days from suspected places have become law, allowing in all cases four days for the passage. Should death from cholera occur on board, the quarantine may be extended from fourteen to twenty days from the day when the body shall have been removed from the ship.

These regulations do not recognise quarantine performed in other countries, unless the regulations

of these countries are conformable to those adopted by Sweden.

April 13th.—I had a very long conversation with Count Wetterstedt on the Polish question, who did not conceal his approval of the Imperial Ukase by which the kingdom of Poland is essentially become an integral part of the empire. H.Ex. added that H.I.M. had exercised his undoubted right of conquest with a degree of moderation alike honourable to him as a prince and as a man. H.Ex. could not however help admitting that there might not only be inconvenience but perhaps danger by the present incorporation of the two countries, the hitherto frontiers of Poland having now become the frontiers of Russia.

Neither the opinions of the society nor those of the nation at large conform with the opinions expressed to me by the organ of the Court and Government. Indeed no increase of territory by Russia can be made acceptable to Sweden whatever may be the predilections of the Court.

April 27th.—The Marquis of Dalmatie left his residence last Wednesday on leave of absence. Previous to his departure he was honoured by separate audiençes from all the Royal Family, as

well from the personal consideration in which he is held as from the circumstance of his having married a grand-niece of the Queen of Sweden. The Marquis has been distinguished by very particular favour.

When the Marquis was received by the King, H.M. entered into a very long conversation with him, the evident purport of which was to impress the Foreign Minister with an idea of his complete freedom from Russian influence, distinctly assuring him that although there had been formerly an intimacy naturally grown out of the then state of Europe, at a time, too, when so much depended upon the constancy of the Emperor Alexander, whom he considered to his death as a personal friend and "frere d'armes," still there never had been a political engagement of any kind between them that was not known to the whole world.

Soon after the accession of the Emperor Nicholas, the delicate question of the marriage of Prince Gustav Vasa with the Princess Marianne of Holland, came under consideration, when the King was under the necessity of addressing himself to his allies. On this occasion H.I.M.'s conduct was of the most friendly nature; his communications conclusive

and satisfactory. All these circumstances had led to terms of good neighbourhood, which it was his bounden duty to cultivate and maintain. I am fully aware, said H.S.M., of the sentiments and feelings of my subjects on this question, feelings which I shall at all times hold in respect.

The Marquis assured me that the whole bent of his conversation was to prove to him that the opinions generally entertained on the question of Russian influence were groundless and unjust; and in this object I could perceive that H.S.M. had not failed. I, however, attach no sort of value to these declarations, whilst H.M.'s deportment evinces a totally different feeling.

May 18th.—It is at length decided that the King will visit his Norwegian capital immediately after the breaking up of the camp, which will take place about the 5th of July.

H.M. has not been in Norway since 1828, when he was present at the extraordinary Storthing, which was convoked for the purpose of preserving and examining into the laws established by the Constitution of the 4th of November, 1814.

H.M.'s projected visit is a matter of much congratulation to his Norwegian subjects, who are

somewhat inclined to view with jealousy an absence of four years from their country. An annual visit from H.S.M. forming an Article of their Constitution.

June 1st.—I have the honour to acknowledge your Lordship's Circular, conveying the intelligence that the cholera had ceased as an epidemic in London, and that consequently the Commissioners of Customs had been instructed to issue clean Bills of Health from the Port of London to commence on that day, which gratifying intelligence I lost no time in communicating to the S. Government, accompanied by my request that H.S.M. would be pleased to take into his gracious consideration the safety with which the Quarantine Regulations, now pressing so heavily upon our commercial relations, may undergo modification.

June 22nd.—On Thursday I had the honour of dining with the King, who was so gracious as to command my attendance when he rode over the ground of encampment. H.M. was received by the troops with the greatest enthusiasm, and expressed his satisfaction with their general *tenue* and appearance. I have been in constant attendance on H.R.H. during the exercises and manœuvres, and have found

a very great improvement in the general discipline and intelligence of the officers and men.

Some changes have been made in the uniforms by the Prince Royal, to whose direction and management H.M. confides all military details. The changes I consider to have been extremely judicious, inasmuch as the dress of the soldiers, with the exception of the Life Guards, is now as plain and simple as it can be; consequently much expense is avoided, a circumstance by no means immaterial to the finance of the country.

Nothing can exceed the popularity of H.R.H. with the troops, or the good humour with which they endure fatigue; and, in truth, they have but little repose during the time of being assembled.

Yesterday morning a reconnoitring party was sent out. After an absence of eighteen hours from the camp, this little corps returned at night without the slightest appearance of fatigue.

One of the regiments of cavalry has been cantoned at Drottingholm, seven miles from hence, unable to continue its route owing to an extraordinary sickness with which four-fifths of the horses were suddenly seized, and from which they are but slowly recovering. There has, however, been no

instance of death, and they are considered to be convalescent. The symptoms were cough, running at the nose, and extreme debility. The treatment, copious bleeding and setons.

After dinner H.M. was pleased to converse with me in a separate room, principally on the state of France. He dwelt much on the personal courage displayed by the King Louis Philippe, to which he attributed the fortunate turn in the affairs at Paris. H.M. added that, in a private letter that he had received from one of his correspondents who was an eye-witness of the proceedings within the Palace, it was stated that eight only of the King's *entourage* were faithful to him, and had the wavering of the National Guards continued for one hour more a general *bouleversement* must have been the result. H.M. touched lightly on the Reform Bill, to which I knew from undoubted authority H.M. has not been favourable, but naturally felt a delicacy in expressing opinions adverse to those which I had advocated in my conversations. He has not, I moreover knew, scrupled to express his opinions to the Russian Ministers, whose principles would naturally fall in with anti-liberal opinions.

The disease which manifested itself in the

cavalry has been increasing, and has extended itself to the private stables of the capital. It has been most felt in the Royal establishment; as yet there has not been a single case of mortality.

July 6th.—The camp broke up at this place yesterday after twenty days of indefatigable drill and manœuvre; and I have no hesitation in saying that, *under the peculiar organisation* of the Swedish army, more accuracy of movement could not be attained by any troops in Europe.

In the year 1829 a calculation was made of the portion of time actually engaged in exercise and instruction, when it appeared, taking one year with another, that since 1815 the Swedish army had not been assembled even by regiments more than twelve days in each year, and even this has undergone a still further diminution since 1829, owing to the failure of crops and the great public work of the canal where the soldiery is employed, and to complete which, by next September, the utmost exertions have been made.

The Prince Royal has obtained from H.M. the greatest praise and commendation for the state of the troops, and Wednesday being H.R.H.'s birthday, they passed in review before the King. On

this occasion H.M. was pleased to compliment them as well for their soldier-like appearance as for the execution of the several movements.

Their Majesties and T.R.H.'s were received with enthusiastic acclamation by far the largest concourse of people I ever saw assembled in Sweden, and by the troops with a general feeling of regret that the separation was at hand. The King looked remarkably well, and seemed to have lost none of that activity and zeal which have characterised him heretofore. The Prince Royal has particularly endeared himself to the troops. He remained the whole time with them ; indeed, he did not once enter the town, and had the talent and tact to soften down a strict discipline with a kind consideration for the men ; taking care that the utmost attention was given that the rations supplied were of the best quality. H.R.H. also introduced the use of porter in place of brandy at the option of the soldiers, to which I attach the highest importance, as every measure by which the use of that most pernicious liquor can be discouraged ought to be resorted to. 'Tis the bane of the Swedish people.

I had the honour to attend H.R.H. every day, and was highly gratified by the condescension

and confidence with which he was pleased to favour me.

The horses of the cavalry regiments had so much amended that almost all have been able to return to their cantonments.

The cholera has reappeared at Hamburgh.

July 13th.—On the 25th of June a grand dinner was given in the town of Holmstadt in honour of the triumph of the Reform Bill. The meeting was attended by many merchants and agriculturists of the town and neighbourhood, and was conducted with the utmost decorum. I should here observe that only one public functionary was present. The sentiments expressed bore testimony to the high respect entertained for my Government, by whose wisdom and perseverance this great measure was achieved, by which the natural rights of man were morally secured to constitutional Europe. The meeting called upon the energies of the Swedish people, nurtured as they were in the cradle of northern liberty, to follow the bright example of the British people, by whose union and firmness in aid of its Government this glorious measure has become law.

Having had the honour of receiving Count

Wetterstedt at dinner, H.Ex. did not disguise the uneasiness which this meeting had occasioned, and I learnt in the course of the evening, from a functionary under less restraint than the Count, that H.S.M. was very much annoyed at this ebullition of public feeling. Indeed with H.M.'s susceptibility and the greatly increasing licence of the Press, I was quite prepared for this information.

July 20th.—On Wednesday evening I returned with the Prince Royal from his maritime excursion in this Archipelago, and had every reason to be grateful to H.R.H. for the opportunity afforded me of investigating this new system of defence, which from H.R.H.'s conversation I now consider to be established.

The boats were of the smaller class carrying 24-pounders, a 3-pounder in the bow, and 20 seamen. They may besides for a short distance embark 40 soldiers. The construction of the boat is sharp at both ends, rowing either way. Our weather was not particularly favourable, nevertheless the rowers seemed quite sufficient to force her three miles an hour through the water. She carries provision for three weeks, and water for one. H.R.H. appears to have alike the talent to gain

the good will of the navy as well as that of the army, of which I have already made mention. H.R.H. displayed the greatest interest in the various experiments which he directed and superintended himself. And when it is recollected that one half of each crew was composed of the conscription, the whole was conducted with wonderful correctness.

It would have been impossible for any Prince to be received with a more cordial and hearty welcome than was H.R.H. by the many thousands collected to witness his disembarkation.

July 27th.—I have exercised the utmost diligence, to ascertain the causes which have led to the peculiar construction of the present Regency; and I have learnt from authority upon which I can rely, that a jealous uneasiness had arisen in the mind of the King, owing to the facility with which the Prince Royal conducted the public business during His Majesty's late illness, growing out of H.R.H.'s perfect knowledge of the Swedish language, which enables the Ministers and Counsellors of State, to furnish, in their own language, the needful explanations in their different departments, and thereby advancing, in an im-

portant degree, the public business; whereas, from the King being wholly unacquainted with Swedish, it is at all times necessary to convene a preparatory council, for the purpose of translating into French the affairs to be brought before the King in Council.

I have reason to know that these facts excited in the King's mind very uncomfortable feelings, and that they were the cause of the unwillingness, shown on the part of His Majesty, to invest the Prince Royal with unrestricted power on the present occasion.

August 10*th*.—All the ports in England and Scotland, Antwerp, the Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg, the Danish Islands (with the exception of Iceland), Island of Bornholm, have been declared infected with cholera. Pomerania and Zealand have been declared suspected. The disease having broken out in Bornholm, so very near the Swedish coast, is cause of much disquietude throughout this country.

The King has safely reached Christiania, and in every part of the country through which he passed was received with the most enthusiastic welcome; at Christiania the loyalty of the inhabitants has been

manifested in a much stronger degree than heretofore. His Majesty has shown great satisfaction at this state of public feeling, and has made evening visits to several of the private families in the town.

H.M. received in state the Marquis de St. Simon, who on that occasion delivered his credentials as Envoy Ex. and Min. Ple. from the King of the French.

The Russian Minister, the Count de Suchtelen, has received instructions from his Court to use his endeavours in concert with the English and French Ministers, to obtain the concordance of H.S.M. to the convention entered into by England, France, and Russia in May last, and ratified towards the end of July, for placing on the throne of Greece the Prince Otho of Bavaria.

I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that I reached this capital (Christiania) on the 22nd inst., where I found the King in the best health. I had an immediate audience of H.S.M. and was received in a manner which could not fail to be highly gratifying to me as British Minister. The King expressed himself in the most unequivocal language of attachment to England, and to the principles of my Government. During

dinner, where I had the honour of being seated next H.M., he drank a full glass of wine to England's prosperity, and nothing could exceed the language of confidence with which H.M. expressed himself without the least concealment from the French Minister who sat on the opposite side. H.M. deigned himself to invite me and the gentlemen with me to dine at the Palace every day during his stay at Christiania: and last evening, on my taking leave, was pleased to desire that I should accompany him on his tour of inspection of some works at Carlscrona and that I should assist at the ceremony of opening the canal which will unite the Baltic and North Seas, a work of great importance to the internal navigation of Sweden.

The good feeling of this people is demonstrated on every occasion, and H.M. has spoken to me of it in terms of the highest gratification. Indeed it would seem that the Norwegians had gone beyond their natural character in the loud expression of their loyalty and attachment to the King's person. In the course of different conversations H.M. has touched generally on the state of Europe, dwelling with much earnestness on the position of

Don Pedro, respecting which he appears not to be quite satisfied, though full of hope of ultimate success; but the King is so pleased with his reception in Norway that foreign politics seem to interest him less than usual. H.M. has charged me especially to assure Lord Grey and your Lordship (Palmerston) of his entire confidence, and I should here add that this people are so avowedly English in all their principles and opinions that the favour with which H.M. has been pleased to receive the representatives of England has caused particular satisfaction.

I have the honour to announce the arrival of Mr. Bloomfield (as Secretary of Legation) after having passed ten days in quarantine at Känsö.

September 3rd.—H. S. Majesty left this capital on the 30th ult., and the effusions of loyalty and attachment to the King on his departure were such as could not fail to be most gratifying. Amongst other proofs of public feeling the Students of the University presented an humble address to H.M. praying that he would permit them to repair in a body to the Palace. A procession was formed on the evening preceding H.M.'s departure, and the young men marched to the Palace where they

expressed their loyalty in a song composed for the occasion. The students here have always been considered an unmanageable body and ready to show disobedience to the constituted authorities. It is therefore very satisfactory to His Majesty to find them equally desirous with the others of his Norwegian subjects to join in the universal expressions of loyalty.

I was admitted to the Royal presence a short time before the King left. On inquiring if I had received any news of interest from England, H.M. spoke for a considerable time on the general probity of my Government, and declared that he highly approved the decision on the question of the Russian Dutch loan, considering that it could not have taken a step more certain to increase the confidence of foreign powers by giving so distinguished a proof of its determination to follow and uphold the spirit of treaties.

The King was again pleased to mention, in the most gracious manner, his satisfaction at my presence in Norway, and invited me to join him in his journey through the southern provinces of Sweden whenever it suited my own convenience. His Majesty proceeds in the first instance to

Gottenburgh and thence to Helsingborg to see the pier now completed at that port; he afterwards goes to some of his estates in Scania, and I purpose meeting H.M. at Carlscrona on the 17th inst. His Majesty travels by easy journeys, visiting several Swedish nobles on his way to Stockholm.

September 21st.—H.M.'s progress through the southern provinces has been marked by an enthusiastic reception from all classes of this people, which is the more remarkable when we consider the times in which we live.

Having found on my arrival here that the Corps Diplomatique has been invited to assist at the opening of the Götha Canal on the 26th inst., I have made my arrangements to return to Norrköping for the purpose of accompanying my colleagues on an occasion which will become memorable in the annals of Swedish history, and be a lasting monument of commercial improvement.

The Queen, Prince, and Princess Royal have already proceeded to Finspörg, the seat of Count Wetterstedt, where H.M. meets them on Sunday next.

September 21st.—I have the honour to transmit a copy of the Swedish articles of war. They are

now under revision by a board of general officers, and the president of the board has assured me that great changes are to take place. Increased severity will be introduced in the new law, although the corporal punishment now authorised is to be abolished.

October 5th.—In compliance with the instructions contained in your Lordship's Circular Despatch of the 17th of August, I have not failed to take the earliest opportunity of meeting my French and Russian colleagues on the subject of the recognition by this Court of Prince Otho of Bavaria as King of Greece.

The notes were delivered on the 3rd inst., and I have since had the honour of dining with the King, who was pleased to take me aside and state that he had seen the communication from myself and my colleagues. That he was disposed in every way to meet the wishes of my Court in any arrangement for the success of which H.M. felt much interested, and which, he added, did so much honour to the labours of the Conference.

October 5th.—I had the honour to inform your Lordship that I had received an invitation, in common with my colleagues, to attend the King

at the opening of the Götha Canal, and finding they were going there, I did not like, though on the point of quitting this country, and at considerable inconvenience, that the English Minister should be absent on this occasion. I accordingly repaired to Norrköping.

The Royal Family, and many of the principal persons of both kingdoms assisted at the different ceremonies and festivities which took place in celebration of the completion of this national work.

The King and Royal Family, attended by their Courts and the Corps Diplomatique, proceeded through the last five locks of the canal in a Royal yacht, and passed into the Baltic, followed by several gunboats saluting. It was an imposing ceremony, and has been the source of great gratification throughout this country.

Vessels of 100 tons burthen can now pass from the Baltic to the North Sea, partly by the canal, and partly by the lakes which abound in this country, and which have given great facilities in the construction of this vast undertaking.

The canal was commenced by Count Platen in 1810, and since his death has been continued under the superintendence of Baron Sparre, General of

Engineers. It will have been finished for less than £1,000,000 sterling, but it is further proposed to expend an additional sum of £10,000 in widening the locks at Trollhætta.

The tolls to which this navigation will be subject are not yet fixed, but the expenses are estimated at about one-half incurred by vessels passing the Sound; and in addition to these advantages to foreign commerce, the transport of goods through the interior will gradually improve many towns hitherto unfrequented.

The King showed his usual attention to the Corps Diplomatique, and appeared in excellent health. His Majesty returned to Stockholm on the 1st inst. amidst the acclamations of his people.

October 6th.—Great interest has within the last two days been excited in this town by an occurrence which took place on the morning of the 4th inst.: when two retired officers, Major Baron Ernest von Vegesach and Major Baron Gustav von Düben, were arrested on suspicion of high treason. They are both persons in great penury. It appears that these officers have for some time past been suspected of carrying on a clandestine and illegal correspondence relative to Prince Gustavus (which

by the laws of Sweden is made high treason), and the attention of the Government has of course been directed to the discovery of all the facts attendant on this case. Düben has twice already been pardoned by the Royal clemency for offences of a somewhat similar nature.

In 1829 he returned from Vienna, and was sent for by the King. H.M. warned him of the danger of his proceedings; and Düben signed an avowal of having had an interview with Prince Gustavus, and made a solemn promise never to hold further communication with him.

The prisoners were examined on Thursday at the Swea Hof Rött (one of the highest courts of justice), and a letter from Baron Vegesach, dated from Berlin last July, and addressed to the Baron Düben, was produced. This letter detailed Vegesach's wretched circumstances, requesting Düben to exert his influence with Prince Gustavus, in consideration of his attachment and devotedness to the ex-Prince, to send some relief to himself and his family. It finished with the observation that before his departure from Sweden he had had communication with several members of the Opposition, and that their opinion was that no

safety could exist for Sweden unless Prince Gustavus was replaced on the throne.

Baron Vegesach denied that the letter was written by him, though he allowed it was like his handwriting. He applied for his release, but this was refused; and it is suspected that amongst his papers which have been seized some will be discovered to substantiate the accusation. As yet, however, we know but little, as no name appears beyond those of the above-mentioned officers, or do the Government suspect others to be implicated in this proceeding. The examination was continued yesterday, as before, with closed doors, and nothing further was elicited. The Baron de Schulzenheim has read to me the Circular he has addressed to the different Swedish missions on this subject. It contains a statement of charges brought against the prisoners, but with fewer details than those which I had the honour to lay before your Lordship.

The Russian mission here endeavours to draw all blame or concern in this matter from Prince Gustavus, and speaks in the highest terms of the Prince's forbearance and determination to avoid holding any communication with such persons.

I cannot resist giving my opinion that the Swedish Government has attached more importance to this transaction than perhaps it deserves. The two prisoners have neither party nor influence in the country, or do I even suspect that Vegesach's allusion to the Opposition being in favour of Prince Gustave was at all authorised by them.

It is said, and I have reason to believe with truth, that the letter which has caused their arrest was intercepted by the exertions of Count de Löwenhielm, Swedish Minister at Vienna.

October 12th.—Since my No. 39 of the 6th inst., upon the subject of two arrests for high treason in this town, public curiosity has much abated. Indeed, very little has been elicited beyond the facts I have already announced, and the examination of Baron Vegesach's and Baron Düben's papers has not led to any further discovery or to the implication of any beyond the two prisoners. Amongst Düben's papers several prints of Prince Gustavus have been found, and Düben, who is an enthusiast for the exiled family, continues to declare his opinion that no security can exist for Sweden but in the return of the ex-Prince. He does not attempt to conceal his

opinion. From Baron Vegesach nothing has been discovered; but I enclose a translation of an article in the Stockholm official gazette, from the perusal of which one is inclined to think that pecuniary necessity has had much to do with the transaction; indeed, such is the abject poverty of these unfortunate men, that, to save their families from starvation, the Prince Royal has just administered relief to them.

I had the honour to dine with the King a few days ago, and H.M. spoke to me on the subject. He treated it lightly, and observed that amongst a people like that over which he was called to reign there was nothing to fear from the machinations of such persons who could have but few if any accomplices in this country.

The prevailing opinion is that exertions will be made to show sufficient cause for sending them out of the country, and such would be a very popular measure.

October 12*th*.—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch, announcing Lord Howard de Walden's appointment as H.M.'s Envoy Ex^{y} and Minister Plenipotentiary to the King of Sweden, and also your No. 6, in-

closing my letters of recall, which I shall have the honour to deliver previous to my quitting Stockholm.

The French Minister has received a Despatch from his Government, which he immediately communicated to me, stating that in consequence of the rejection by the Court of the Hague of the last efforts of the Conference to conciliate the interests and pretensions of the conflicting parties, France and England had resolved to employ measures of compulsion: that a combined fleet would proceed to blockade the Scheldt, and that a corps of 25,000 French troops, commanded by Marshal Gérard, would be placed at the disposal of King Leopold.

This intelligence was immediately conveyed to the S. Government, and Count Wetterstedt did not conceal from me his regret at the obligation to use force against the King of Holland, and at the same time observed that his Despatches from Paris and London gave him hopes that this force might not be brought into action.

October 12th.—The King of Sweden, in reply to the letters from King Leopold notifying his acceptance of the Crown of Belgium, fully acknowledged the sovereignty of His Belgian Majesty.

I send a copy of H.S.M.'s reply to the letter of the King of the Belgians, announcing his marriage with the Princess Louise of France.

November 9th.—Tuesday last, the anniversary of the Battle of Lützen, was celebrated in the Riddarholm Church, by the removal to a marble sarcophagus of the remains of King Gustavus Adolphus from the vault in which they have hitherto been deposited. The ceremony was conducted with great pomp. The Royal Family, with the exception of the Prince Royal, attended by their Courts, were present, and the Diplomatic Corps had the honour of assisting on the occasion.

The University of Upsala having been founded and endowed by King Gustavus Adolphus, the anniversary of this favourite sovereign was hailed there with every demonstration of respect and gratitude, and an appropriate service was held in the Cathedral by the Archbishop. The Prince Royal, as Chancellor of the University, presided at the ceremony, and was accompanied by the elder Princes; the whole was conducted in the most impressive manner.

And Count Wetterstedt has received a communication from the Swedish Minister at the Hague of

the refusal of His Netherlands Majesty to accede to the terms proposed. The Count deplored the necessity which seemed to actuate the Courts of London and Paris to adopt the coercive measures now in preparation, and dreaded the consequences that might befall Europe from the commencement of hostilities. I assured His Excellency that H.M.'s Government equally deplored the necessity of the projected operations, and that the measure of sending an expedition to the Scheldt and blockading the Dutch ports was more likely to ensure the peace of Europe than produce a general war. I added that the Belgian question had become more and more complicated from the various difficulties continually presented by Holland, and that the time was come for England and those Powers who acted with her, to show that they would not longer permit unreasonable obstacles to be thrown in the way of an adjustment.

The last time I had the honour of dining with H.S.M. he drew me aside and inquired if I had received any news concerning Holland. I of course replied that I was without official data on the subject; that matters appeared drawing to a crisis, and that I was anxiously expecting the next mail.

H.M. then said: "Je vous parle, mon Général, en camarade, et je vous déclare que ces démonstrations contre la Hollande m'affligent. Nous devons tous trop à la Hollande. La France veut des hostilités et cherche un débouché pour ses esprits turbulens." *

November 16*th.*—Reports from St. Petersburg state that the Emperor of Russia is now greatly occupied by the extraordinary advances of the armies of the Pacha of Egypt, and that the Turkish question from its intimate and peculiar connection with Russian interests, does so much engross H.I.M.'s attention as almost to withdraw it from Holland and Belgium.

February 1*st*, 1833.—I beg to inform you that the Swea Hof Rätt have sentenced Barons Vegesach and Düben to banishment for life, and the former to be confined in a fortress until he acknowledges his guilt. There have been numerous and continued discussions in the Council of Justice, and the sentence of Baron Vegesach to the fortress was only carried by a small majority.

* "I speak to you, General, as to a comrade, and I declare that these demonstrations against Holland afflict me. We all owe too much to Holland. France wants hostilities, and seeks an outlet for her turbulent spirits."

The matter now rests with the Högste Domstol (highest tribunal of appeal) and is not yet confirmed. Indeed I am assured on the best authority that great unwillingness exists among the members of this court to close the question according to the above sentence. The public do not appear to take the least interest in either of these trials.

The victory gained by the Pacha of Egypt over the Turkish forces at Konich reached this from St. Petersburg by the last post. The intelligence is stated to have caused some sensation in the Russian capital, and the continued successes of the Pacha have been looked upon by the Swedish Government with interest, inasmuch as Russia appears inclined to take an active part in forcing a mediation, or in preventing the approach of the Egyptians to Constantinople.

Count de Wetterstedt informed me that the despatches from the Swedish Chargé d'Affaires at St. Petersburg merely stated the arrival of the above intelligence, observing that the tone of conversation in that capital seemed to convey the general belief that French intrigue had encouraged and brought about the Egyptian movement.

February 22nd.—The Norwegian Storthing was

opened on the 13th inst., and the King's speech read by Mr. Cattell, the senior Counsellor of State.

The accounts lately sent from Norway to Government are more satisfactory than any yet received concerning the disposition of the majority of the members composing this body; nevertheless it is impossible to form any opinion as to the probable results of the Session, as the Storthing has hitherto been solely occupied with preliminary business and the election of committees; but it appears that no systematic opposition is yet established, and that the few late discussions have been carried on in great good humour, without violence or party spirit.

The value of Norwegian paper money, as your Lordship will perceive by the Speech, has not been affected by the great depreciation of the Swedish currency, and the public revenue has been advancing most favourably, indeed much more so than was calculated in the Budget. The national debt is being gradually paid off, and rapid steps are making towards its extinguishment. In fact the state of the country seems to have materially improved since the last Storthing in a financial as well as in a commercial point of view.

February 22nd.—Count de Wetterstedt mentioned to me on Tuesday the satisfaction H.S.M. has experienced on learning from Count de Björnstierna that H.M.'s Government will take into their serious consideration the overtures lately made relative to the sale of the island of St. Bartholomew.

I was assured by His Excellency that the King had expressed himself much pleased with the prospect of England's possibly becoming the possessor of this island; and he commissioned me to say to your Lordship, that should H.M.'s Government eventually decide on making this acquisition, it would be rendering Sweden a very great and essential service.

H.M.'s Government are aware of the barren condition and unproductiveness of the island, but nevertheless as a sea-port and harbour the West Indies have none, I am informed, better calculated for a naval depôt, and as such, it may be an object to prevent its falling into the hands of the Americans.

The suspicion so often entertained that protection is afforded at St. Bartholomew's to the Slave Trade may somewhat bear upon this subject, and perhaps counterbalance in the eyes of H.M.'s

Government any objection to increasing in this instance the number of the British West India Islands.

March 1st.—Since I last wrote concerning the Norwegian Storthing, the President has moved that the Royal proposition (renewed every Storthing) for so far altering the fundamental law of Norway, as to grant to the King an unqualified veto, be referred to a Constitutional Committee; on which M. Moriboe, a very radical member, proposed either that a positive negative should be given to the President's motion, or that it should be considered without the intervention of a committee; although the national feeling is strongly opposed to the veto, the President carried the point against seventeen voices.

M. Moriboe also moved, with an evident view to inculpate ministers, that the ordinances of Government hitherto unsanctioned by the Storthing should be discussed. This subject, after a long debate, was referred to the Constitution Committee.

Mr. Hjelm, another ultra-radical, made a motion tending to ensure to Norway a greater share in the management of diplomatic questions involving Norwegian affairs. He proposed an address to

the King stating it to be unconstitutional that such questions should be expedited by others than Norwegians, and requesting H.M. to provide for the maintenance of the constitution and dignity of the country. This proposition, which failed some years ago, has also been referred to the Constitution Committee, and from its impractibility is expected to have no other result than causing unpleasant feelings at Court.

I am most happy in being able to inform your Lordship that I have received from H.M.'s Vice-Consul at Warberg intelligence that the Nidingen light-house will be finished early this year. I have made numerous representations to the Swedish Government, and it is therefore with me a matter of congratulation, as this establishment cannot fail to lessen the number of shipwrecks which have annually occurred on this line of coast.

March 8th.—In conformity with the instructions contained in your Lordship's Despatch of September 21st, 1832, I communicated to Count de Wetterstedt my wishes to have an audience of their Swedish Majesties for the purpose of taking leave.

I had yesterday the honour to deliver in the

usual form to the King and Queen of Sweden the two letters which I was charged to present recalling me from this Court as His Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary. His Swedish Majesty was pleased to receive me in the most gracious and distinguished manner, and I had the honour, after my audiences, of dining with the King and meeting all the Royal Family.

I did not fail to accompany the letters with suitable expressions on the part of the King my master, and was specially commanded by H.S.M. to declare that he should avail himself of every opportunity to cement and draw closer the bonds of union and good understanding which so happily subsist between the two Crowns, charging me, in an emphatic manner, with his respects and homage to the King, and his ardent and sincere wishes for the prosperity and glory of His Majesty's reign.

His Swedish Majesty also commanded me to convey to His Majesty's Government the assurance of his confidence in their good wishes for the prosperity of Sweden and Norway, and his hope that in the event of any necessity for assistance he might always rely, for the preservation of

their independence and of their nationality, upon the powerful aid of England, to which country his attachment was, and he trusted would ever continue unabated.

His Swedish Majesty charged me further with complimentary messages for Lord Grey and for your Lordship, which I shall seek the earliest opportunity of delivering, on my arrival in London.

I had the honour to present my son, Mr. Bloomfield, as Chargé d'Affaires, and have delivered to him the archives of this mission.

"I have, etc., etc.,

"BLOOMFIELD."

APPENDIX.

EXTRACTS FROM LORD BLOOMFIELD'S LETTERS TO HIS WIFE.

"STOCKHOLM, *May* 14, 1830.

"THE accounts which I have received this day from Mr. Wynne, of the King's state, help to render my lonely life very, very melancholy. This letter gives no hope. I confess that I have had little. The symptoms have been just those which Sir Walter Farquhar always apprehended would terminate his earthly career. May the Lord comfort him on his sick bed, and may peace be administered to his soul. I have ever since the first accounts prayed fervently for his preservation; but, above all, that he may be prepared to meet that awful change which awaits alike the monarch and the slave. You may judge how deeply afflicted I am."

"STOCKHOLM, *June* 10, 1830.

"Your dear letter reached me on Sunday. For the next I fear I must wait some days. In the unhappy state of the King's health this delay becomes still more trying. My fears are beyond fears, my prayers are unceasing, and I trust whatever may be the dispensation of God's providence, I shall resign myself to it as becomes a true Christian; but when I bear in mind, and I bear nothing else in mind, those kindnesses which he heaped on me and

my children, I can only seek peace in prayer, and in my closet, where my heart unceasingly dwells on his favours towards us."

"HAYDEN, *June* 18, 1830.

"How very sad your account of the dear King. It would appear that all human effort must at last prove unavailing. However, it very often happens when we short-sighted mortals think our state at the very worst, that an all-seeing power preserves us. I confess that my deepest feeling is for the dear King's spiritual state.

"It will be particularly gratifying to me to see the new style of drawing which Burgess is teaching my dear children, though I am not over fond of frequent changes in the studies of young persons. A steady pursuit, uniform in its object, often leads to perfection.

"My darling, I am deeply affected by the prayers Mr. T—— composed for you. I, of course, could not hope to express, in the opening of my heart to the Almighty, my prayers and resignation as he has done; but I derive intense comfort in the reflection that in my morning and evening prayers the same submission to God's will and supplication for His guidance have been felt and expressed; and I shall add your prayers to my daily outpouring, and hope to get, by cleaving to the only Source of Peace, that greatest of all blessings."

"*June 24th.*

"How grievous is your account of the poor dear King. Alas! my darling, it is the course of nature, and we must unceasingly pray that his sufferings may not increase. The approach of death, and particularly by a march so slow, is more affecting, I do believe, in a palace than in a more humble sphere. How sad the state of helplessness in which he is, and how sensibly is that state felt when

one casts the eye on the royal magnificence everywhere to be seen except where the Royal patient lingers. My heart sinks within me, and my whole soul is faint. Oh, if my prayers are heard he will be blessed."

"*June.*

"There is apparently a desire in ——'s letter to retire from the world. Do explain this to me. I can see no Scriptural interdiction to intercourse with our brethren. On the contrary, I conceive we are called upon by example and precept to humbly 'minister grace unto the hearers,' and how can we do so if we separate ourselves from the world? To be followers of the world is the opposite extreme. God forbid that I should inculcate or desire that, but then I have ever dreaded that enthusiasm which carries us beyond God's calling. I feel so much doubt of myself whilst explaining my views even to you that I have much hesitation in writing even this much. I feel that religion is like the principle of vitality in the whole human body, and communicating its kindly influence to the remotest fibres of the frame, still, not shutting up within itself all those right and lovely consolations, so heavenly to impart, and so beneficial to those to whom imparted. Had our Saviour and His Apostles lived for themselves, how sad would our condition be. I repeat that I consider there is in —— an enthusiasm which needs watching. May heaven's blessings be poured down upon you, and may the Lord permit that we meet again soon."

"STOCKHOLM, *July* 9, 1830.

"My darling, the fatal news (the death of George IV.) reached me yesterday. The bell has toll'd its last, and he is for ever gone. How my heart sinks within me, all is faint, but I will trust in the Lord. Our Saviour wept—

would I could shed a tear. I have not done so, but am so full of sorrow, that, unless some relief comes to me from above, I shall mourn beyond that which God's ways and dispensation permit. H.M. seems to have desired to be released though free from pain. May he have put his trust in the Lord. How comforting to think on His mercy to us miserable sinners. Oh! that he whose memory is so dear to me, may have trusted in Him through Jesus Christ. All my friends are full of kindness to me; but, alas! he is gone never to return. How fervently have I prayed for him. I believe never was a monarch more beloved. . . . I confess that my hopes were buoyed up somewhat, and I relied too much on his strength. Conceive, then, how severe the shock has been. . . . His loss will be severely felt by his three sisters, for they loved him dearly. I hope and trust with you, my darling, that those whose regards we value are still friendly towards us. Indeed, I found but little change in any one, save that which must ever attend a total separation like mine; and in my case, I do believe, it was less than it would have been in many others. In a political point of view the next post will be of peculiar interest. May the Lord direct William IV. The state of the country is most critical, and it appears to me as if the Duke's (Wellington) Government was less strong."

"HWYLAN, *July* 21, 1830.

"My darling, your dear letter of the 8th came on Sunday, and has given me cause for deep thought. . . . The state of . . . appears to me to demand your utmost care, and not to rest wholly on your own judgment. I do not dare to do so on mine, the subject relating to our future state. I by no means venture to offer opinions on which you are to regulate yourself, though

I shall unreservedly unburthen myself to you. It would seem from your description that . . . are rapidly advancing to fanaticism, and as far as my search into Scriptures has gone, I cannot discover that enthusiasm belongs to the Christian character. I avow my intellectual insufficiency, and labouring as I have done for the last year, without any spiritual help, my progress is less than perhaps it ought to have been. My endeavours however are earnest and sincere. I trust my prayers have been heard, but to return to . . . I have been reading the 3rd chapter of St. Matthew, and I was referred by a note to the 12th of Romans, where in the second verse we are told not to be conformed to this world. Archbishop Secker wrote the following on this passage: 'The Gospel forbids conformity to the world by no means with an intention that we should be singular in matters of indifference, but resolute against compliances unlawful or dangerous.' I am led to this quotation in answer to your letters, and this subject occupies my mind constantly. . . ."

"STOCKHOLM, *July* 30, 1830.

". . . The regularity of our communications is my chief consolation, and the state of uninterrupted health which you all, thank God, enjoy, is a blessing to me. The opportunity afforded our dear son to watch the mortal remains of our benefactor (George IV.) was a balm to my sorrowing heart. How I have wept, how I do weep, with the mournful picture before me of that dear son of ours, not only performing this last melancholy office, but feeling such deep grief at the side of the coffin which contains the mortal remains of a being so loved in life, and in memory, if possible, still dearer. The reception our dear son seems to have met every-

where will be gratifying to your feelings. He wrote in a hurried manner from Windsor Castle. How exactly he has anticipated all my feelings and wishes. As far as I know, and indeed from one most intelligent correspondent occupying much of the public eye, I have the following observation: 'Our Sovereign and friend is forgotten before he is in his grave. Not by the country, but by his courtiers.' How sad!

"I confidently expect the King (William IV.) will be highly popular. He possesses many of the attributes suited to England's Crown, and to the English people; and if the Lord grants him health and strength, I anticipate good from his reign. All that he has done hitherto, appears judicious and amiable. The great proportion of the late King's servants being kept, is most honourable to them. I have the most delightful anticipations of Queen Adelaide. She will adorn the throne of Queen Charlotte. . . ."

"STOCKHOLM, *August* 13, 1830.

"Bishop Porteus, a most enlightened divine, said: 'Christianity forbids no necessary occupations, no reasonable indulgences, no innocent relaxation. It allows us to use the world, provided we do not abuse it. All that it requires is that our liberty degenerate not into licentiousness; our amusements not into dissipation; our industry not into incessant toil; our carefulness not into extreme anxiety and endless solicitude.'

"Mr. Wilberforce on Christianity is very strong, that unless the heart give evil constructions, we shall be considered, through Christ, as in no way guilty. Legh Richmond dates all his success in the ministry to Wilberforce's work, and declares he was in error before he had studied the principles laid down by that good layman.

In Matthew x. 38, we are told 'to deny ourselves, to mortify our members.' What says the note?

"These expressions by no means imply, what some have chosen to infer from them, that we are to renounce the world and all its pleasures, employments, connections, and concerns, to forego everything that is cheerful and agreeable to our nature, and to consume our whole life in abstinence and austerity. According to the fairest and most established rules of interpretation, these and many other similar phrases enjoin nothing more than a constant habit and vigilance of self-government, a cautious and jealous attention to the movements of our minds and the progress of our passions, a discreet and sober, not a criminal and unbounded conformity to the world, a strict abstinence from all irregular and immoral gratifications, without either declining any of the duties or sullenly withdrawing from the harmless enjoyments, conveniences, and comforts of social life. 'The general reasonableness of Christ's doctrine, the coolness of his temper, the composedness and familiarity of his whole conversation, prove He was no enthusiast. The religion of Christ stands eminently distinguished in this respect when compared with other religions, which have been founded on the fanaticism of either their authors or their first followers.' These are notes which I think not unworthy of consideration. They are by the greatest divines, and I should be glad . . . read them."

"STOCKHOLM, *August* 27, 1830.

". . . I quite agree with you in thinking that so unnatural a state of things cannot go on in France. I do not confine my observation to the Dynasty, but to the whole of the Fabrick. I am not without fears for the peace of Europe. The question of Algiers and of Greece

will involve much angry discussion—to use a mild term—and it is not likely that a ministry from the extreme Gauche will follow any march of the former Government; indeed, it may be thought more acceptable to the *vox populi* to take an opposite course. The present King (Louis Philippe) was ever considered a deep designing man, and seemed without any particularly intimate relation, living *en famille;* an excellent father, I believe, as well as husband. The poor little Duc de Bordeaux is an object of pity, and may, at a later day, engender much strife in France. He cannot be without adherents. The influx of Jesuits and Papists in England is far from desirable; nay, I think it ground for disquietude. I read your papers with much interest and attention. The article from Mrs. Rhind's pen is very good. I am not, however, fond of *vague narrations* on a subject so grave as that of our holy religion, and great care should be taken to guard against over-charged pictures, with which our unhappy land abounds. I agree with Mr. Legh Richmond that when the meeting-house increases its flock, the Rector will ever be found deficient. He particularly dwells on the plain truths of the gospel as the sure attraction and the sure criterion. There the really pious will resort, and if that was the path pursued, our Dissentents would be less numerous. I must now tell you that a very clever young man, a Mr. Scott, has succeeded Mr. Stephens.

"I have heard him several times, and have, I trust, thereby benefited. The first day he preached in the morning from Isaiah iii. 10, 11: 'Woe unto the wicked! it shall be ill with him, for the reward of his hands shall be given him. As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy path.' He admirably expounded the righteous

man's hope, and the wicked man's woes. On leaving the church, I observed to Mr. Owen that I regretted time would not allow of his further instruction, how the wicked man by repentance and newness of life could be saved. At evening service he preached from Matthew xv. 22 and 28: 'And behold a woman of Canaan came out of the same coasts and cried unto him, saying, Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil. Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.' Mr. Scott beautifully explained these verses, and in describing the Canaanitish mother's perseverance was touchingly affecting, particularly where her appeal of 'Lord help me' is given. I was much struck with the sermon, and mentioned to Mr. Owen that I should almost have thought Mr. Scott had heard my remark in the morning. Mr. Owen then acknowledged that he told Mr. Scott of it, on which he selected his text. Last Sunday he preached from Matthew xviii. 3: 'Verily I say unto you, except ye be converted and become as little children ye shall not enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.' He was again very satisfactory, and in his allusion to our becoming as little children after conversion, he went to the heart.

"In the evening his discourse was from 2 Kings xx. 1: 'In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And the prophet Isaiah, the son of Amos, came unto him, and said unto him, Thus saith the Lord, Set thy house in order; for thou shalt die, and not live.' Here Mr. Scott expounded the injunction of setting our house in order, as the necessary attention to worldly affairs; that, when the call comes, we may be ready, and found in undisturbed prayer. He gives a lecture on Wednes-

days; when I went he preached on the 15th Psalm: dwelling much on the sin of backbiting. On the whole, we like Mr. Scott better than his predecessor. He has less repetition, and does not employ so many adjectives to give force to his subject. I think Mr. Scott is more spiritual, and more in earnest out of church. He gave notice in the chapel that, if any part of his discourse should need further explanation, he would be found at home each Monday and Tuesday morning; and ready, with God's help, to remove any doubts that he might have raised in the minds of his hearers. I shall cultivate his acquaintance, and hope to profit by it."

"STOCKHOLM, *October* 1, 1830.

". . . What a description you give of East Cowes Castle. It must be quite delicious. Nash is a wonderful little man, and if he could be kept to his own opinions, he would have had more professional success. Poor dear fellow! Can you imagine such a notion as my intending to cut him! 'Tis so foreign from my character; indeed, I may say that my support of him brought much ill will upon me, as he was hated by . . . and not liked by others. It is always a comfort to reflect that I was never biassed by interest; and ever spoke the truth, giving my help to the weakest. By the last post I sent you a plan for the Knockfune Lodge. I wish you could talk of it with Nash. The great 'Keeper' mountain rises from behind, and the situation is in a beautiful valley; a little sketch from his pencil would be charming. From our dear boy I heard from Dublin. Nothing can have been more prudent or judicious than all his arrangements, and I hope they may, in time, be profitable to himself."

"STOCKHOLM, *November* 2, 1830.

"I trust the good sense of my country will be its best security; still there is much to alarm, and there is no reason why *we* should be exempt from the evils which are spreading around us. I have such implicit reliance on the Duke of Wellington that my regret dwindles to nothing on the disappointment of the City feast. Still, how Sir C. H. could have been selected for an organ between the Government and the City authorities, is, to me, difficult to understand. After his mayoralty he went to Paris, and left his cards, '*feu* Lord Mayor!' However, as all is well, let us look to the brighter picture of hope and confidence."

"STOCKHOLM, *November* 12, 1830.

"There are some dreadful remarks quoted from *The Morning Chronicle* respecting Ireland, absolutely goading the people to rebel: 'They have nothing to lose; all change must better their condition, etc. etc.' O'C. will not try his powers at St. Stephen's; he reserves them for poor inflammable Pat, where his success is less problematic. I trust the Duke of Wellington will be supported, for I believe him to be the only man suited to our present difficulties."

"STOCKHOLM, *December* 24, 1830.

"The distracted state of my country presses very sadly upon me. The papers speak of further extension, but that in some parts order had been restored. It was a pity that the Duke could not bend to the times. Why he should have set public opinion at defiance, instead of being taught by the extraordinary events passing around him, that, whilst that irresistible instrument was directing the destinies of other countries, it could not be long without

having a powerful influence on our own. I expect to see a large majority for *moderate reform;* and as Mr. Brougham on the woolsack is no longer the same person who addressed the Yorkshire freeholders, it is probable that Lord Grey may be able to restrain the over-zealous of his colleagues. He is an *unbending aristocrat*, and I think will not suffer any innovations on the privileges of that body. By our last French accounts the fate of the unfortunate Ministers seems less alarming. I see nothing remarkable in the English posts save Lord Melbourne's letters reproaching the magistrates for their concessions, etc.

"I confess that the acts of Sir Jacob Astley and Lord Orford surprised me, and I bethought myself had we, in the rebellion in Ireland, prostrated ourselves before the people the results would have been very different. The speech of Lord Brougham, the Chancellor, is a new thesis, and a dangerous right sanctioned by our highest law authority. Processions, with banners, etc., being only a line of people walking one after another. May the Lord direct our new Governors; they are not on a bed of roses. Lord Grey has certainly collected the greatest talent in the country around him, but it will all be required. I fear the country expects more than can be done for it.

"Last Wednesday I saw Mr. Scott before the service. He was very useful and interesting, as well as instructive. He said to me 'I have nothing for you to-night,' meaning that my peculiar case would not be particularly the object of his discourse. It was, however, very comforting, in as much as he referred to the attributes of God with such beauty, that man could not but feel his unworthiness."

The following letter was addressed to Miss Wall, who nursed Lady Bloomfield through a very dangerous illness.

"STOCKHOLM, *February* 3, 1832.

"MY DEAREST BESSY,

"With what joy and thankfulness to God I begin my letter this day. The state of uncertainty and dread in which I have been for so many days has greatly affected my nerves; nevertheless, my trust has been steadfast in the Lord, and that is the hold, the stronghold, in the hour of need. The post of the 20th did not reach us till Tuesday, and I verily believe that the delay was permitted that I might previously hear my dear spiritual friend deliver a sermon on Psalm xxxi. 24: 'Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the Lord.' I was sure, indeed, he afterwards told me, that he had selected this portion of Scripture to awaken and strengthen my confidence. I was deeply affected throughout the whole of the discourse, but received the needful help and comfort.

"I never doubted the state of my beloved Harriott's mind; but to know it, is a source of unspeakable thankfulness. It would seem that the Lord in His love and mercy intends to spare her to us a little longer; may she increase in faith and holiness as she gains bodily strength to bless her children, and in the brightness of her example lead them in the narrow way.

"What can I say to you, my beloved Bessy? You much understand 'groanings that cannot be uttered,' the Lord has blessed the means employed, and may this trial be blessed to us all. Say something for me to dear ——. How few are there who care for my soul! I am indeed grateful to her.

"I should ill deserve the good feeling which has been manifested here were I unmindful of it. From the Royal family, through the whole society there has been but one voice upheld for my beloved partner. May the Lord

reward you, dearest Bessy, for this fresh proof of your affection. My unabated love to your mother and brothers.

"Ever your attached and affectionate,

"B."

This letter is peculiarly touching, as the lady to whom it was addressed caught erysipelas from nursing Lady Bloomfield, and succumbed to the attack from which her friend recovered.—[Note by the Editor.]

"STOCKHOLM, *April* 26, 1832.

". . . Frederick's Town, in New Brunswick, is one of my old quarters, and has long been the seat of Government there. 'Tis a fine site, on the banks of a magnificent river, where trees of the largest size grew. I should imagine that New Brunswick, for those who desire to emigrate, will be found a most eligible colony, but the transitions of climate are very great. I saw at Frederick's Town, the thermometer in the shade stand at 94, and the following winter at St. John's at 27 below zero. The passage of the River St. John's from the sea into the great lake is very remarkable. It falls each way, and it is only at mid tide that vessels pass. I forget the number of feet which the water falls, but it is very imposing, and the mass of water very great. The tide in the Bay of Fundy, into which this river falls, rises fifty feet, and where the beach is flat, at its coming in, it needs a swift horse to escape being overtaken by it. The effect of the water at the fall is unique, the passage is narrow, the rocks high and perpendicular, and the diminishing fury of the waters when from high or low water, until they reach a perfect calm, is so extraordinary that all description fails. The passage is short and narrow and literally covered with vessels during the short interval, say twenty minutes, during which the

passage is practicable. The change of the face of the elements is from fall to whirlpool and to a perfect calm. Then begins the whirlpool and fall to the other side." . . .

"STRÖMSTED, *August* 4, 1832.

"My hopes were anxiously fixed upon the post this morning; but like all human calculations, they have been disappointing. I have, therefore, only to tell you about ourselves and our expedition thus far. We arrived early on Monday from Quistrom, that sweet spot which reminded me of happier times there, surrounded, as I then was, by those so dear to me. In the morning I surveyed those beautiful sites which brought my dear children forcibly to my recollection, where they were seated to sketch the surrounding scenery! It drew a tear from my heart. After all I have seen, I think this spot combines as many home beauties as any scenery in Switzerland. There is a feature of repose here which is not to be found there. A more miserable spot than this (Strömsted), could not be selected for the accommodation of those in search of health; but there is a mud here which is considered particularly salutary for rheumatical cases, with which one is besmeared all over, and then rubbed for a quarter of an hour. It has a strong sulphur smell, and also a soapy quality: one is a perfect negro while undergoing the process. Then one is douched with sea-water at about 27° of heat, the water issues from a pipe and falls from a considerable height, striking one with great force. One stands at two yards distance, and the douche is directed as may be desirable; all these operations are done by the fair sex—so miscalled, for both John and I agreed that since we visited the Foundling Hospital at St. Petersburg, we had not seen human beings so ugly. The douche takes about a quarter of an hour, then one lies in a great tub

until the cloths are ready (a minute or two), when one is allowed to dress. My rheumatical aches and pains have not yet diminished; but the cures are said to be remarkable."

"STRÖMSTED, *August* 9, 1832.

"At length, my darling, the long and anxiously looked for post of the 27th ult. has come. Its contents could not fail in drawing forth my thankfulness to the all-ruling power, by which you and my dear children have been preserved from the dangers, which everywhere surround you (alluding especially to the cholera which was very prevalent at that time). I often think when the sunshine of prosperity shone around us, when all was joy and brilliant, when we little anticipated the change a few years would bring, how much less truly happy we were than now. It is said, 'In the world ye shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.' In our blessed Lord we shall have peace. All changes are permitted by our all-merciful and all-wise Father, let us therefore drink the cup cheerfully and be thankful. Oft have I looked back and felt that in no way was the mercy of the Lord more plainly manifested than in my first separation from the palace, and I would not change my inward feelings at this moment for all the Crown could bestow, though they are not unmixed with a portion of bitterness; so let us never look back. The King appears to have been very kind to John, and I suppose we must consider ourselves favoured, by being allowed to remain at our respective posts.

"Though I am not a Tory, there are individuals of that party that I love and respect, but I believe in my heart I have always been a Whig. My earliest political friends were, Fox, Erskine, Tierney, Sheridan, dear Lord

Hastings, and I must not forget Lord Donoughmore. I am also a reformer, though I wish the Bill had been less sweeping at the beginning, at the close of the discussion, I believe less would not have answered any purpose."

"STRÖMSTED, *August* 20, 1832.

"My darling, conceive my delight, not looking for our dear son before this afternoon, at his arriving yesterday at four. The dear fellow was released from quarantine on Saturday, when he set out in the jagd waggon, and never stopped until he reached his poor overjoyed father. Thank God for his safety and his apparent good health.

"I have, by the last mail, received a letter from Lord Duncannon which would gratify you. He says: 'Your son, whose very gentlemanlike and conciliatory manner has much contributed to the settlement of business, will,' etc. etc."

"CHRISTIANIA, *August* 27, 1832.

". . . I should have told you before of our reception here; nothing could exceed the kindness and cordiality of the King (Bernadotte), as well to John as to myself. We have a concert every day, and his whole deportment to us has been most gratifying; his *entourage* not less so. I was not ten minutes in the house before the Count Brahe came; and on the preceding Tuesday, the day I was originally expected, His Majesty giving a party in the evening, had sent an officer as late as eleven o'clock at night, in case I had arrived, to engage me to come to him. Invitations awaited us, and on Thursday we presented ourselves. Friday morning we drove to breakfast to Bogstadt, and I declare that our welcome, both by the Count and Countess, could not have been more hearty in Ireland.

"The Countess was in bed with a bad headache, but got up immediately, and I trust was not the worse. After

I had been half-an-hour in the house the Count quite suddenly repeated his accolade, and said: 'Upon my word, I never was so glad to see any one.' There is so much heart in all they say and do; and there is certainly more cordiality amongst the Norwegians than among my friends the Swedes, with, however, some exceptions. The weather has not been free from occasional showers, but altogether we do not complain. On Thursday the King goes to Moss, and we shall retire to Bogstadt, accompanying His Majesty on Monday to Jarlsberg, make a visit there, and to Monsieur de Löwenskiold, and return across the bay to follow the King to Carlscrona. Indeed His Majesty expressed a desire I should accompany him all the way; but Count Wedel begged me off, so I shall escape a tedious journey. At Carlscrona some new defences have been begun, which we all desire to see. The opening of the canal will take place on the 26th of September, so that I shall not be established at Stockholm before October."

"GOTHENBURG, *September* 11, 1832.

"We reached this place last evening from our peaceful little gite at Quistrom, where we had renewed recollections of happier days! I have been seeing a new district in Norway, from Bogstadt to Jarlsberg, eighteen Norwegian miles, and by far the most beautiful scenery I ever saw. A part resembled the Italian side of the Simplon. Rocks quite as stupendous over-hanging the road, and a wide inlet of the sea bounding it, with many large vessels riding at anchor, and some under weigh. We passed several small towns, beautifully situated on the sea; altogether, I never travelled eighty English miles which comprehended a greater variety of grand scenery than I beheld. Jarlsberg is a magnificent chateau. The suite of rooms, 192 feet

long, with one salon 45 feet square, supported by several massive columns.

"Both the Count and Countess Wedel were the same kind hospitable friends I have ever found them. On the 5th we went to Fossum, the seat of Monsieur de Löwenskiold, the Norwegian Minister of State who resides at Stockholm. The distance about eight Norwegian miles. The road very beautiful also, but wild and very mountainous. We passed five rivers and several good towns. The place very handsome, the house built by the present proprietor, and I scarcely know when I have seen a finer mansion, beautifully furnished and well kept.

"The forges and saw mills are close to the gardens, where there are some very fine falls, and the grounds are varied, taking in two rivers. We rode to a beautiful waterfall, which would have delighted you, and I can safely say you were often wished for. Here we found Mr. Barclay awaiting us, and several invitations have been on our table some hours."

"STOCKHOLM, *December* 22, 1832.

"Mr. Scott read me from a Wesleyan sermon the manner in which a minister of their society opened his discourse, which struck me very much: 'First, we shall open the text that you may see it; second, we shall prove it that you may believe it; third, we shall enforce it that you may practise it.'

"There is something so plain in their manner of enforcing the Scriptures; and then they labour and 'go from house to house.'"

"STOCKHOLM, *January* 4, 1833.

"We are again entered on the beginning of another year. Would, my darling, that you had passed the close

of the last and the opening of the present as I was permitted to do. Our Watch-night, my beloved Harriott, was a privilege I would not have parted with for all this world could bestow. May we each of us gather strength, and press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

"*January* 18, 1833.

"Of all I saw when I was at Birmingham, the little fellow running backwards drawing the wire for pin making amused me the most. If I recollect right we were told these boys run twenty miles per day. Lord Brougham, in his work upon the advantage of machinery, adverts at considerable length to the article of dolls' eyes. I remember how astonished we were at his statement of the extent and value of this branch of manufacture. . . . For my part I do not object so violently as some do to the neighbourhood of a public road. I think the movement is always cheering, and the various vehicles interesting and picturesque in the landscape. I do not think Loughton a bit too near the road. . . ."

"STOCKHOLM, *February* 15, 1833.

"My beloved, you will travel through *un pays de connaissance*, but I fear that the Inn at Alcester will not be very comfortable. If poor dear Lady Hertford was still mistress at Ragley you would not seek a lodging elsewhere; but I think you will not like either Ragley or Stowe, they are too artificial for your taste. . . . You may recollect, my darling, during the rebellion in Ireland, how much the dangers of a residence appeared to be increased when we read the papers, and how little personal inconvenience we suffered.

"Thank God I was once more able to attend church

on Sunday, and cannot express what I felt at again entering the Lord's house, but we had, after the service was over, a most frightful scene. A poor wretched woman, who for some time past has been labouring under great mental excitement, escaped from her family and found her way into our little temple to address Mr. Scott, whom she has for some time believed to be Jesus Christ. The poor creature was carried out of church, and is now placed in a lunatic asylum. I never saw such strength as she displayed, poor thing. How thankful we ought to be to be preserved from such dreadful aberrations. My darling, your remarks have given me cause for distressing reflection. I believe that it is the great work of the evil one, to destroy the first work of God in the soul, or at least to hinder its increase. It is right that we should believe in the threatenings of the Lord, it is alike our bounden duty to believe in His promises. As Mr. Wesley says, 'let us be careful for nothing, only make our requests known unto God, and that, not with doubt or fear, but thanksgiving.' Never let us forget that we have 'an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.' 'Let us press forward to the prize of our high calling, not as Satan represents it, in a horrid, dreadful shape, but in its genuine native beauty; not as something that must be, or we shall go to Hell, but as what may be to lead us to Heaven.' I have put together these little passages from a sermon of Mr. Wesley's on Satan's devices, which I wish you could read. I think and hope, my darling, that it would extinguish all doubts and fears which disturb our peace. Oh! may they be removed by the power of the Holy Spirit, so that we may rejoice for what God has already done for our souls, and in patience and resignation cast our burthens upon Him who has promised to sustain them for us. This subject, beloved of my soul,

presses heavily upon me. May the Lord be my strength. His peace is sufficient for us, may it prove so to you.

"Last Sunday Mr. Scott's discourse was from Isaiah lv. 1: 'Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.' He was very feeling upon the goodness of God, describing the various scriptural meanings given to water, wine, and milk. The sermon was full of humbling exhortation, but accompanied with the delightful hope provided for us in the Gospel, when all is from the free grace of God. He dwelt upon the sinfulness of self-righteousness, its entire unavailingness."

"STOCKHOLM, *February* 23, 1833.

"On Tuesday I was blessed with the satisfactory accounts of your progress. Poor dear Ragley! I should not like to see it now, though perhaps the sensation might afterwards produce recollections, soothing as well as afflicting, to my heart. May the Lord have received him to his bosom who so long proved my earthly happiness. The saddening *souvenir* of the King's apartments which you describe brought tears to my relief. I feared you would not be very well off at Alcester. I wish you had seen Wroxton Abbey; perhaps I preferred it to any of the grander places. I passed some days at Stowe, when it was in great splendour and very comfortable; but its vastness would seem to destroy what we little folks most esteem and value.

"I hear the gun-house is henceforth to be considered an appendage to the post of Adjutant-General, and the horse brigade is given to the senior officer of the regiment, General Smith. In the order of things, the General, now above eighty years old, cannot last very long, when I

should be the papa of the regiment, and, if the same rule is observed, these good things would fall to my share; but it would seem as if worldly good is, for the present, withheld from us—no doubt for a good purpose.

"You already know of Lord Howard's* departure. He has travelled by forced marches, for on the 11th he was at Aix la Chapelle; so that we are looking for him the end of next week. 'Tis rather inconveniently soon, and will embarrass me very much in all my plans and packings. In the latter we have made great progress; and, from the impossibility of selling anything for a reasonable price, I have been forced to take almost everything home, and shall have at least 150 cases. . . . On the subject of legislative union there can be but one opinion. Indeed, I consider it vital to *both* countries, and am therefore rejoiced to read the determination of Ministers to preserve the empire one and indivisible.

"Poor N——, what a gloomy mind! He is ever anticipating evil. My confidence is not shaken in the least; and although we may have great, very great difficulties to contend with, if we only rely upon Him who is All-mighty and All-powerful, we shall escape through the fire and not be burned.

"Last Sunday the text was Isaiah lv. 1, continuing the subject from the preceding Sunday. It was very encouraging: 'Every one that thirsteth come ye to the waters,' etc. How general is the call. We need no money, for God giveth liberally. He compared the blessings offered with the foolish vanities after which we are generally seeking here below, that satisfy not. He

* Lord Howard de Walden succeeded Lord Bloomfield as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Stockholm.—[Note by Editor.]

referred much to the experience of his hearers, to whom he appealed for the truth of that saying. Are we ever contented with any earthly possession? I believe all might answer, no. The whole discourse was calculated to draw us nigher to God, and to loosen us from the world. In the evening Mr. Scott expounded Matthew xii. 31, 32: 'Wherefore I say unto you all manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men; but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men. And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of Man, it shall be forgiven him; but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come.' He spoke at great length upon the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost. If we deny the powers of the Holy Spirit, we are without faith and without hope. But though he considered this a reasonable deduction, still he stated that as the performance of miracles, on the occasion of which the Pharisees denied the power of our Saviour, and ascribed that of casting out devils to Beelzebub, had ceased, the blasphemy referred to is no longer among the catalogue of sins imputed to man. After a long disputation on this difficult point, Mr. Scott pointed out the great encouragement given us in this very portion of God's Word: 'All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men.' This was the first evening for two months that I was able to attend.

"I felt particularly moved. God bless you, my beloved, our dear John is near me. How my heart sickens when I think upon our early separation. God's will be done. May He keep him in the hollow of His hand. I feel very sad when I think of his quitting his father's house. He will accompany me, I suppose, one day's journey, though I shall only let him come as far as our

dining-place, so that he may get back here and have a shorter solitary drive after our separation."

"STOCKHOLM, *March* 7, 1833.

". . . Lord Howard de Walden may be here this evening. I yesterday took my leave of the Court, where I was received with a kindness and regret indescribable. The two Courts (the King and the Crown Prince's) were assembled for the dinner, and from each I experienced the utmost consideration and warm kindness. Indeed, I may say, that a good and kind feeling towards me is general, and by no means confined to the society in which I moved. Yesterday I sat next Her Royal Highness, and do assure you, the tears at times were very apparent. In short, nothing could exceed the general feeling shown me. I leave to John the description of Count Wetterstedt's dinner, and his farewell address to me in the King's name as well as his own, and in that of this country. It was most gratifying and affecting. Every one was moved, and when we rose from table, each one embraced me, and the Count himself was much affected; as for poor me, it was too much for my susceptible heart. I have had a most touching letter, dictated by the King, fixing the day for my audience of leave to deliver my letters of recall; when my functions cease the 21st, please God I shall bid farewell to this good and kind people.

"John is now *Chargé d'Affaires* for a few hours only. When I gaze upon him, and think of our approaching separation, my heart is desolate. . . .

"With regard to what you say about Mr. W., he is an ingenious fellow and very friendly. Therefore I the more regret that his name should appear coupled with that of O'Connell. I do not, however, see why we should not give free privilege in the expression of opinions on

public matters without interrupting the social relations of life."

"STOCKHOLM, *March* 22, 1833.

". . . I had last Wednesday a long conversation with Mr. Scott on the best manner of influencing others. He quoted the observation of one of their preachers, in his advice, when an old man, to the young and less experienced: 'To declare God's threatenings with tears.' Many a man has been brought to a sense of his danger by such a course. Last Sunday evening he preached on the five last verses of the 12th chapter of St. Matthew. He said we had there our Saviour's own commands to consider mankind as brethren; and the whole of His life on earth was an example that we should love and cherish our fellow creatures."

"STOCKHOLM, *March* 26, 1833.

"My hope was to have left this next Saturday, which would have enabled me to reach Copenhagen the following Thursday. Good Friday would then have been observed with that sacred humiliation which all who reflect on our Saviour's sufferings must feel. However, the King and Prince desiring to see me again, and this good people continuing the manifestations of their affection and good-will, seemed to make it desirable that I remain on here for Holy week; besides, I shall have the comforting privilege of holy ordinances uninterrupted. If possible, I shall leave Copenhagen on the 15th for Lubeck, and proceed home by Sheerness. Yesterday I dined with our worthy good neighbours. The old man drank my health after dinner, saying: 'La bouche se tait mais le cœur parle.' Sentiments like these have been expressed on every opportunity; and I do think, when I leave these dear people for the last time, that it will go hard with my feelings."

"STOCKHOLM, *April* 4, 1833.

". . . The Count de Brahe came to-day from the King to offer me a portrait of His Majesty, desiring me to go to the painter's in order that I might select the costume I preferred—the robes of the Seraphim or the uniform of the nobility. I dined with Their Majesties yesterday, and nothing could be more feelingly kind. The King spoke to me for a long time, and embraced me several times; the Queen was equally gracious, and by both I was charged with kind messages to you."

"COPENHAGEN, *April* 15, 1833.

"My darling, we made a good journey, though the weather was snowy and rainy, and the roads heavy, but we are here safe, where we have been most hospitably received by Sir Henry Wynne. . . . At Helsingfors the neighbours came to offer their good wishes, and as I left the pier the Commandant bid me farewell in the most affectionate manner. I was quite calm, and we rowed over in an hour.

"I need not renew the description of my separation from dearest John. We prayed together in the morning, and when we rose from our knees, I put my book into his hand, on the first page of which he has, I trust, read the outpouring of his poor father's soul. He came to Pilkrog, about four and a half Swedish miles from Stockholm; and after dinner we bid farewell. He is now established in his own lodging, and as comfortable as he can be out of his father's home. His new chief (Lord Howard de Walden) was very, very kind.

"Yesterday a Despatch was shown me from Count Wetterstedt to the Swedish Minister here, announcing my departure, and the painful regret which has been felt from

the King to the peasant. You never read so flattering a testimonial. I have given you rather a lengthened history, approaching to egotism. The best of us are egotists!"

EXTRACTS FROM LORD BLOOMFIELD'S DIARY, 1831.

Hebrews xi. 4.—"He being dead yet speaketh."

April 17th.—Numbers xxiii., latter part of the 10th v.: "Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my latter end be like his!"

This was a beautiful discourse, descriptive of the death of the righteous Christian. It began with a short account of Balaam, which the preacher applied most usefully to his hearers, and he then described most affectingly the death-bed of an invalid who had been a great bodily sufferer for several years, and, although a religious person, could not bring herself, until near her end, to view death with that calmness inseparable from the righteous Christian. The Lord was, however, then pleased to release her from her fears, and to give her such complete confidence that she, in her latter hours, *desired* to appear before that God and Father whom she had faithfully served. The preacher drew an awful comparison between the death of the righteous and the wicked, and called attention to the fact of our never neglecting to prepare ourselves for the trifling and uncertain events of this life; and yet for this awful and certain event there are many who never bestow a thought upon it, though in it is involved the question of our eternal happiness or misery.

May 8th.—1 Peter ii. 24: "Who his own self bore our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness; by whose stripes we are healed."

The all sufficiency of the atonement was satisfactorily established by abundant quotations from the sacred record. Let no man establish a salvation of his own, but cleave to that which God in His love has provided for an offending world, imploring us to turn unto Him, to forsake sin, otherwise the atonement will not avail us. The discourse opened with the simile of a monarch sending his son, the prince, to call back his offending subjects to their allegiance, and sacrificing him for his people. After the sermon, which was very useful and comforting, I attended a prayer meeting, the particular object of which was to excite a new married couple to a lively faith in God's providence, and pointing out to them their new responsibilities. Mr. Scott afterwards accompanied the young people to their dwelling, where prayers were the first offering in their new habitation, and engaged them for some time.

May 15th.—Hebrews ix. 24: "For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us."

This discourse was highly useful and most comforting. In alluding to the resurrection of our Saviour, and the blessings to man of His intercession, the preacher opened out the scheme of salvation, and exhorted us to seek the Saviour who suffered for us and is now in heaven, ready to plead for every repentant and believing Christian. In drawing our attention to the sufferings of our Saviour, Mr. Scott was powerful and impressive. He gave notice of the administration of the sacrament for the following Sunday, and spoke of the conditions on which communi-

cants can alone be safe in approaching the sacred table, announcing that should any of his brethren desire to consult him on this all-important subject, he should be ready to receive them.

Hebrews ii. 9: "But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that He by the grace of God should taste death for every man."

The object of this discourse was to break down the Calvinistic principle. The text was: "That He by the grace of God should taste death for every man;" and the preacher took a review of those parts of Bible history on which the Calvinists rest their creed, and showed that they opposed inferential authority to positive declaration. He applied the principle that God intended all to be saved, to his congregation, and filled us with hope that none need be excluded.

May 22nd.—I joined the little band of worshippers on board an English ship in the harbour. There were present the crews of four ships, and it was impossible to see a more devout and attentive congregation. Mr. Scott delivered an appropriate prayer, and addressed them without confining himself to any particular verse of Scripture as his text, but drew from various passages what he thought most needful for his hearers, particularly against swearing and a mis-use of the Sabbath, or drunkenness. He dwelt most feelingly upon the peculiar dangers to which a sailor's life subjects the Christian, hence the greater the necessity that he should be always on his guard, and prepared to appear before our Lord and Father. Mr. Scott seemed quite happy in having been able to engage the captains to meet together for divine service. . . . . I returned home thankful for the privileges I had enjoyed, and praying that the seed might not have been sown on unprofitable ground.

Wednesday Evening.—Mr. Scott preached on the history of Hezekiah and the fall of Sennacherib, as predicted by Isaiah. He alluded beautifully to Hezekiah's spreading the letters before the Lord, and his trust in God. He set forth the sinful reign of Manasseh in striking contrast with that of Hezekiah and Josiah, applying the history to us, and calling on us to commit ourselves to the Lord, who will never forsake those who put their trust in Him.

Trinity Sunday, May 29th.—The last five verses of Matthew iii.

Mr. Scott brought forward abundant proofs of the Holy Trinity, calling upon us to believe the *fact*, though we finite beings may not be permitted yet to understand it.

Sunday, June 5th.—Mark x. 46th and following verses.

This discourse was calculated to draw us to the Saviour—"None need despair, behold the poor blind beggar Bartimeus." Mr. S. drew our attention to this striking effect of faith, and taught that we must not only generally pray for the supply of our temporal and spiritual wants, but for whatever we need, in faith nothing wavering, and our prayer will be answered. Mr. S. also shortly expounded the lesson for the day, Joshua x., and showed how the Lord employed the Israelites as means to punish the rebellious.

Evening.—Romans iv. 5: "By faith the sinner is justified;" but justification here meant his first entry into the Christian course, and after that works are the fruits by which he will be judged hereafter.

June 12th.—John xiv. 1, 3: "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."

This was a particularly affecting and interesting discourse. Mr. Scott reminded us that he had some months

ago preached from this text on the melancholy occasion of the departure of a beloved son, the earthly comfort of his pious mother, on the occasion of whose death he now had to address us. She being the first of the little band who sought a better world. He felt himself called upon to draw our attention by an application of the words taken from the morning service. After a short reference to the piety of the deceased, and the assured hope that she was received in that place prepared for all true believers, he alluded to many of the troubles to which we are exposed in this our earthly pilgrimage, and gave gospel comforts to all. His quotations from Scripture to furnish those remedies proved a remarkable knowledge of God's word. He exhorted us all to be ready before the night comes when no man can work, to separate ourselves from the world, for we cannot serve God and mammon, and to cleave to Him, who alone can and is willing to save to the uttermost. He addressed some as having probably witnessed the expiring breath of a dearly-loved child, or as having had the ties between husband and wife rent asunder, most touchingly describing the sufferings inseparable from the human heart, and yet even for these chastenings the Lord has furnished that comfort which passeth man's understanding. During this discourse my tears frequently fell. The scene of my dear departing child Charlotte was vividly brought before me, but I trust not unprofitably.

Evening.—John iii. 7. The intention of this discourse was to fix on our minds the absolute necessity of regeneration. He spoke with great clearness, quoted much of the chapter, and alluded to the Pharisaical fears of Nicodemus, who sought our Saviour by night to get knowledge from Him. He applied this portion of God's word to us, and assured us that as far as the Lord had

enabled him to understand the word, regeneration and adoption are changes in the heart effected at the same time as justification.

1 Corinthians xiii. In beautifully expounding this picture of charity, the love given in this chapter is that of the true Christian, and we should endeavour to attain it by prayer through Jesus Christ; if attained, it might be called perfection.

June 26th.—Psalm xxxiv. 8: "O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him."

Mr. S. divided this most interesting text into three parts. He defined the goodness of God, and contrasted it with man's unworthiness most powerfully. He called upon us to examine ourselves, and then we should find His goodness manifested to us at every moment of our lives, although we live in constant rebellion against Him. Mr. S. gave a beautiful description of that man's peace who trusts in the Lord, and tastes of His goodness, and quoted the 18th verse of the 1st chapter of Isaiah, picturing the Lord entreating the sinners to draw nigh unto Him.

Evening.—Galatians iv. 6: "And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father."

This was a difficult doctrinal sermon, dwelling on the Spirit itself bearing witness with our spirit that we are the children of God. Then the immediate result follows, viz., "Love, joy, peace, long-suffering," etc., etc., without which this testimony cannot continue. It must be inevitably destroyed by the commission of any outward sin, or the omission of any known duty by which the Holy Spirit of God is gained.

July 3rd.—2 Samuel x. 12: "Be of good courage, and let us play the men for our people, and for the cities of our God."

This was a most practical and useful discourse. The preacher dwelt much on the courage needful to withstand the wily enemy. He pressed upon parents, heads of families, their high responsibility; that we are not to be slothful, but fervent in spirit serving the Lord, for we shall have to render an account of the talents entrusted to us, and to remember that this is not our abiding place. He pictured the joys of a blessed eternity through Jesus, and the misery of unbelievers, and bid us trust in Christ and not be afraid, but endeavour to serve Him faithfully in the station of life in which He has placed us.

Philippians ii. 12, 13: "Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure."

Man is exposed to two great errors regarding the way of salvation, and no doubt these are presented to our minds as temptations by the enemy of souls. On the one hand we may be inclined to depend too much on ourselves and too little on Christ; on the other, we must be careful not to continue in sin that grace may abound. Let us study the 12th chapter of Romans and 12th chapter of the 1st Epistle to the Corinthians, and remember that when we are weak then are we strong, and not be weary in well-doing. Bishop Hopkins bids us work with that earnestness, constancy, and unweariedness in well-doing, as if works alone could justify and save, and yet depend as absolutely on the merits of Christ for justification and salvation as if we had never done one act of obedience.

July 10th.—John ix. 27: "Will ye also be his disciples?"

This text was divided into two parts: 1st. An explanation of the term "disciple," and what that word conveys; and 2ndly. A call to us to be Christ's disciples.

Are we followers of Christ our Teacher, though we are nothing and can do nothing but repent and believe. He who is powerful in mercy and unbounded in love tasted sin for us and bore the punishment due to us. God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness, and has promised that all who believe shall be saved.

Acts xxiv. 15 : "There shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and of the unjust."

All must rise again—let us be prepared for the second coming of our Lord. We must expect difficulties in our journey through this howling wilderness where we are constantly exposed to temptation from within and without, still let us trust in that mercy and love which ever more abound, and believe in the Saviour who is able and willing to save the chief of sinners.

July 31*st.*—Hebrews xiii. 20, 21 : "Now the God of peace that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenants, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ ; to whom be glory for ever. Amen."

The preacher applied these words to the general state of the world, and to the state of neighbourhoods and families. The din of war cannot be acceptable to a God of peace, and to be pleasing in His sight we ought to endeavour to do His will by that neighbourly harmony and affection throughout the sphere of each, in neighbourhoods and families ; happiness in this life depends on that charity which "never faileth," which excites the best feelings of the heart, and assures peace and good-will towards men. Seek and ye shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you, says the Lord. So shall our work

through Jesus Christ make us do that which is well-pleasing in His sight, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

August 25th.—Psalm lxxxiv. 11 : "For the Lord God is a sun and shield ; the Lord will give grace and glory ; and no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly."

The preacher drew a touching comparison between the natural man's wants and the good which flows from the Son of God. There are many assurances in Scripture as well as that quoted in the text that no good thing shall be withheld from them that walk uprightly. We were exhorted to leave the vanities of this world, which are but for a moment, and to cleave to the Lord. What a striking difference between the man who walks uprightly and the man of the world. How superior the happiness of the former man in this life, of him who casts all his care upon the Lord, over the man who seeks his happiness here below. We may be assured that nothing that is good for us shall be withheld by our merciful Father, who spared not His own son, but gave Him to be a sacrifice for a rebellious world. With this evidence of His love how can we doubt His willingness to freely give us all things ; afflictions are good for us as yielding the peaceable fruits of righteousness unto them who are exercised thereby.

September 4th.—1 Thessalonians v. 19: "Quench not the Spirit."

Mr. Scott urged with great force the power of the Holy Spirit ; and that power it is needful for us to understand. He dwelt on the power of fire as aptly exemplifying the operations of the Spirit, purifying, as the refiner's furnace, and melting the hard and stony heart. He exhorted us to take warning not to ignore this heavenly gift, without which we can do nothing ; for it is Christ who worketh in

us both to will and to do. He touched very feelingly on the tender mercy of God and the utter unworthiness of His creatures, and bid us not act despitefully towards that Spirit which dictated the Bible, or suffer ourselves to be engrossed to an inordinate degree in the cares of this life; but to draw nigh unto God, and He will draw nigh unto us.

Matthew iv. 19, 20: "And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. And they straightway left their nets, and followed him."

Thus were four fishermen selected by our Saviour for the ministry. The power of the Holy Spirit decided them to leave their employment, which produced an honest and decent livelihood, for the work of the Gospel, difficult and hazardous in its progress, and which ended in sufferings, afflictions, privations, and cruel death. But the Lord's work was paramount, and the history of our Saviour, as recorded in the four evangelists, proves the power of the Spirit in enabling these poor, uninstructed fishermen to overcome all the most enlightened of the age, Greeks and Jews, who were forced to give way to the convincing eloquence of the inspired followers of the Lord. It is very interesting to remark that our Lord chose the apostles in preference to the Pharisees, Scribes, and Greeks renowned for their learning and for their influence over those our Saviour desired to lead into the way of salvation.

September 11th.—1 Chronicles xxix. 5: "Who, then, is willing to consecrate his service this day unto the Lord?"

David desired to rear a temple for the solemn service of religion. The Lord, by His prophet, forbade the execution of this project, David having been "a man of war, and shed much blood;" but informed the king that Solomon his son should accomplish the work. Mr. Scott then alluded to the zeal with which the great men of the nation were urged to aid the holy work, and then he brought before us

all the fallen state of man ; but that the Lord in His love and mercy has afforded us the opportunity of repentance and salvation. In every page of the Bible we have the assurance of the Almighty that if we renounce our evil ways and the love of the world, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. The preacher applied the text to the young, the more advanced, the aged, and parents, and impressed upon us, that if we will be the Lord's we must be His altogether, for He hath told us that "he that is not with me is against me." We are not our own, but bought with a price ; and must, therefore, glorify God in our body and in our spirit, which are His. We ought to remember that there is no constraint on man's will. The Gospel is addressed to us as free agents, and capable of receiving or rejecting it. "Halt ye not, therefore, between two opinions, but choose this day whom ye will serve." Our choice must be made willingly ; but what a contrast between the happiness of such service and that of the world ! Let us, then, hearken to the Spirit's striving. "To-day, if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts." This is the accepted time, this the day of salvation.

September 25th.—Proverbs xii. 26 : "The righteous is more excellent than his neighbour ; but the way of the wicked seduceth them."

The Book of Proverbs is peculiarly simple, but contains most important truths connected with our circumstances in life. What a possible picture this text conveys of the righteous man as contrasted with his wicked neighbour. Oh ! that we could all feel the value of righteousness and disregard the love of the world ! The parable of the prodigal son proves that man's wisdom is foolishness, so that we must seek that wisdom which cometh from above. The preacher eloquently spoke of the vanity of earthly

possessions and their imaginary happiness, and endeavoured to fix our hopes and desires on things above.

Matthew v. 4: "Blessed are those that mourn, for they shall be comforted."

Let us clearly and distinctly understand the nature of the mourning which gives comfort. Blessedness in Scripture language means happiness, and there are many cases in Scripture which prove this apparently paradoxical text. It is a mistake to imagine, as so many do, that our sorrow and repentance must be in proportion to our transgressions, whereas our whole reliance must be placed in the blood of our Saviour and His merciful intercession. Now is the accepted time, now is the day of salvation. Let us all come unto Him who is able and willing to save to the uttermost; and let us not delay a single moment. The Lord is the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever; and will cast out none that come to Him through Christ.

Matthew v. 8: "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."

We must look to the Holy Spirit to purify our hearts and enable us to see God; for we can do nothing of ourselves; but a merciful God will not reject the repenting and believing sinners. The great blessing of religion is an increasing desire to see God. This it is which not only softens the pains of death, but even makes death desirable; as a Christian cannot attain to the glory which shall be revealed without passing through the dark valley.

October 6th.—Malachi iii. 16, 17, 18: "Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another; and the Lord hearkened and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon his name. And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that

serveth him. Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not."

Scripture proves most forcibly in this text and in other places the necessity of our "not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together" for the purpose of worshipping God. Yet must we beware of leaving within the walls of the Lord's house the things that belong unto our peace.

October 30th.—Luke xvii. 32: "Remember Lot's wife."

This sermon pressed upon us to take heed not to disregard God's warnings, and enlarged upon the fate of those who gave themselves up to the things of sense and time, when the flood came and destroyed all but Noah and his family, who had entered into the ark. So was it also at the destruction of Sodom. Lot's wife, who, for the apparently simple act of looking back, was turned into a pillar of salt! Let us always bear in mind that God knows every thought of our hearts; "from him no secrets are hid." We may conceal our faults from our fellow men, but not from God. In the case of Lot's wife, God knew that her looking back was not only an act of disobedience, but that she was clinging to her worldly goods. Oh, let us beware of doing likewise; but rather cleave to the Lord, and to the things which belong to our eternal life; seeking first the kingdom of God and His righteousness.

October 30th.—Matthew v. 9: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God."

How peculiarly acceptable must the peace-makers be in God's sight, to be called his children. How manifold are the duties which this ever imposes on the Christian. Charity is not mere almsgiving, but forbearance and endurance under every disappointment and vexation. When we see how clear and manifold are God's commands on this subject, we must feel how often we transgress His law, and

how far we are from that perfect charity described by St. Paul in 1 Cor. xiii.

November 4th.—Jude, 21: "Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life."

Mr. Scott earnestly exhorted us to build up in the most holy faith. He explained with great minuteness the necessity of doing so, and that the foundation of Christianity is not to be shaken, though the upper structure may vary, but it must be raised on the most holy faith. We are too apt to narrow our view of Christianity by dwelling on disputed points. Let us hope, and let us embrace the word of God in all its width and height, an expanse which passeth knowledge. He dwelt with great earnestness on the necessity of prayer; but not as a form. God looks not for eloquence from His creatures; but is it not said, "Groanings that cannot be uttered" God will hear and answer. He strongly exhorted us to engage in prayer, not as the hypocrites, that we may be seen of men, but to enter into our closets and pray to our Father. Private prayers demonstrate our entire dependence upon God. The heart and soul then seek to pour out their supplications and thanksgivings, not to be heard for much speaking. All is then pure, and displays that sense of our helplessness and dependence on God, which will be acceptable to Him, for He knoweth what things we have need of before we ask Him. There is also a further advantage, inasmuch as private prayer is less liable to worldly distractions; but social prayer is equally important as helping us to encourage one another in the narrow way. It is superfluous to urge a faithful and constant attendance on the holy ordinances of the Church.

November 20th.—Romans vii. 4, 25: "Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body

of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God. For when we were in the flesh, the motions of sins which were by the law, did work in our members, to bring forth fruit unto death."

This discourse closed the history of the Israelites and their dispersion, without the possibility of any certain trace of that people to this day. The preacher applied, with good judgment, the visitations of God's displeasure on the Jewish nation as a just source of dread to them who live in sin and disobedience. He implored us to consider well our condition, to love God with a sincere heart. He glanced at the futility of our serving God through fear of hell, exhorting us to "love Him because he first loved us," and this latter application of the sermon was peculiarly profitable.

Saturday Night, December 31*st*, *Stockholm.*—The meeting was, as at the close of last year, deeply interesting, and I hope most profitable to those who are seeking the "narrow way." The sermon was from 1 Corinthians vii. 29: "The time is short." It behoves us, therefore, to examine ourselves, and see that the year now drawing to its close has been spent in the service of our Lord, and that we have not attached ourselves to the things of this world, which pass away and are no more seen. Let us resolve henceforth to apply ourselves diligently to those things that are eternal in the heavens, which pass not away.

January 1*st*, 1832.—In the evening Mr. Scott preached from St. Matthew v. He drew useful distinctions which ought to regulate us in our almsgiving. That we resemble not the Pharisees who displayed their religion as well as their acts of charity, seeking glory from men. We are only stewards of God's gifts, and should strive to lay up treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust corrupt, and cast from us the fading vanities of this world. He was

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very touching in the application of this subject, and discriminating in his observations on the mysterious providence of God in the distribution of earthly benefits.

January 13th.—On Sunday Mr. Scott preached from Hebrews vi. 19: "Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which entereth into that within the veil."

He drew a beautiful figure of the anchor of hope, described as a vessel with only that hope of safety to ride out the storms and the beating waves, and having but one harbour into which to take refuge. So let man cast the anchor of his soul sure and steadfast within the veil, where he will neither fear the raging of the winds nor the beating of the waves, and where true joys await him. He made the most heavenly call upon us to seek the anchorage within the veil, where all is joy, happiness, and peace; that the hand of the Lord is ever stretched out to direct and welcome us; that His beacon displayed an unquenchable light to show that narrow road which leadeth to eternal life.

In the evening he preached from Matthew vi. 5, 6, 7, 8: "And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. Be ye not therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask Him."

He strongly exhorted us to engage in prayer, not as the hypocrites do, to be seen of men, but to pray to thy

Father which is in secret. He advocated private prayer, as demonstrating our dependence on God; besides another advantage, the heart and soul then seek to pour out their supplications and thanksgivings, not seeking after eloquence, nor to be heard for much speaking. All is then pure, and displays that helplessness and entire dependence on the Lord which will be most acceptable to Him, for He knoweth what things we have need of, before we ask Him. There is, too, a further advantage in private prayer, less liability to worldly distractions. This discourse was very profiting to all who were seeking the Lord in prayer, enforcing strongly upon us the danger of neglecting this ordinance laid down by God Himself.

In the evening he expounded Malachi iii. and Matthew x. On the first, he having so lately preached, he said little but on the beauty of the three last verses, from which he took his text. On the second he said there were some parts that might not be quite clear unless noticed. How can God—"the God of peace and love"—not send peace, but a sword? He foresaw that His doctrines would produce disunion; which is unhappily verified to us all. Still he exhorted us to remember that the very hairs of our head are numbered, in proof that the least of our concerns are not too small for the Lord. He watches our down-sitting and our uprising, and let us pray that He will be with us until the end of the world, leaving all in His hands.

Monday Evening.—Psalm xxvii. 4: "One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple."

He exhorted us to frequent the temple of the Lord with a true heart, and not with a mere passing curiosity. The royal psalmist in another part tells us that he would prefer being a doorkeeper in the house of the Lord than not dwell therein.

He drew an exalting picture of the beauty of the Lord, comparing it with the fading vanities of time. "Come, ah come, my dear brethren, and behold these beauties with devotion of soul, and inquire of Him who alone can give you wisdom."

It was a consoling discourse at the close; after making, I fear, a true but melancholy remark on the habitual attendance on Holy Ordinances when the heart has no share therein.

January 21st.—On Sunday Mr. Scott preached from Mark xiii. 37: "And what I say unto you, I say unto all, Watch!"

He was forcibly impressive on the necessity of watchfulness, of being ever on the watch-tower; to remember that the enemy was always active, never ceasing to watch for his prey. He then brought before us the necessity of watchfulness in every walk of life. He instanced the mariner, and the soldier engaged in war. If, therefore, in their circumstances, for mere temporal safety, watchfulness was necessary, how much more important when our eternity was at stake, and when the enemy of souls, who was the most subtle of enemies, stood ever ready to ruin us. Besides, "my dear brethren," the command comes from the Lord Himself, "I say unto all, Watch."

In the evening, Matthew vi. 8: "Be ye not, therefore, like unto them; for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of before ye ask him."

He took this portion as the beginning of the Lord's prayer. He drew a beautiful and feeling picture of our Heavenly Father, who Himself permitted us, nay, commanded us, to call Him *our* Father. The command is positive, and only let us view this especial favour as entitling us to be His children. He was quite affecting on the peculiar goodness of God, and explained how we were to hallow His name. On the latter part he was very

explicit, and he must have done us all good in his exhortation to this form of prayer, which he hoped, God sparing him, to be permitted to finish on the coming Sunday afternoon.

We went to Mr. Owen's. He expounded Genesis iii. and Matthew xiv. He avoided the explanation on some part of this chapter, but proved to us the necessity of obedience to God's commands in the most trifling of them, for was ever punishment like that inflicted on Adam and Eve? Matthew xiv: He dwelt on Peter's want of faith, in whose character there were many defects, his denial of our Lord, for instance. Still he was one of the most useful of the Apostles, and made more progress in furtherance of the truth than any of the twelve. He delivered a touching prayer with reference to the separation on earth from those we love. Indeed, his prayers, ever since afflicting tidings reached me, have been well calculated to console and comfort.

February 24th.—Mr. Scott selected for the morning service Jeremiah xxix. 11: "For I know the thoughts that I think towards you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end."

It was impossible to exceed the manner in which Mr. Scott unfolded the merciful attributes of our Lord, which he considered desirable, previous to the offering of praise and thanksgiving. He adverted to the occasion when our Lord delivered this comforting assurance to the poor captives, and applied it to us all, "that His thoughts were ever thoughts of peace, if we would but cast our burdens upon Him, who was willing and able to bear them for us." He cited the miraculous preservation of Daniel and others, and dismissed us with grateful hearts and increasing confidence in our Lord.

In the evening he preached from Matthew vi. 16, 17, 18: "Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that

they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But thou, when thou fastest, anoint thine head, and wash thy face ; that thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret : and thy Father which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly."

He very much pressed upon us not to seek man's favour, but to seek the Lord by a genuine and sincere observance of His laws. He thought that self-abasement highly essential at all times to draw us nigher to God ; and let us do all in the fear of the Lord.

In the evening he expounded the 23rd of Genesis and the 2nd of St. Mark. On the first he proved that all that man really possessed in this world was a grave wherein to lay his bones.

Psalm cxix. 94 : "I am thine, save me."

It will be known by our works whose we are, and whom we serve. When the heart has received this influence we may believe that the Lord has saved us from the love of sin, from the snares and temptations which surround us, and above all from the teaching of our own deceitful hearts ; so let our constant prayer be, "I am thine, save me." Conversion is essential to salvation. "Woe to that man by whom the offence cometh." The Apostle's recommendation, "tell thy brother his fault between him and thee alone" is best. We should never employ a third person until our endeavours fail, and we must do by others as we wish them to do by us !

October 14*th.*—Joshua xxiv. 15 : "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." This discourse will, I hope, have made an impression on me by exhibiting the firmness of Joshua treading in the steps of Moses, and declaring to the idolatrous and rebellious Israelites in the words of my text. This resolution was well worthy of so great a prince, and so good a man, that, if brought to extremity, he would stand alone as the servant of the Most

High. To attain happiness in this world there is no other course; and, to attain a blessed eternity, we must serve God. This declaration was made on the most awful occasion—the departure of this pious veteran—and the last words of any man are listened to with attention.

After reminding the people of the various miseries they had experienced, he drew his instructions and admonitions to a close; and thus left a record on behalf of himself and his family. Great responsibility rests on the heads of parents and heads of families to exert the greatest possible diligence to serve the Lord, and further the cause of Christ by training up their children and dependents in true religion, and the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

November 18th.—Jeremiah vi. 16: "Thus saith the Lord, stand ye in the ways and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls." By the old path and the good way only can we reach a blessed eternity. All admit that they desire to reach Heaven at last. If we intended in an earthly journey to reach a given place, should we not enquire the way? If we missed the straight road, should we not use our utmost endeavours to ascertain the right direction and walk therein? If therefore in an earthly journey we show so much solicitude, is it not inconceivable that we should be so unmindful of our way to Heaven? Do we not know where exact guidance is given? Let us then seek the old book, stand in the way and see. Let us not seek a new speculative way. The path is clear, let us walk therein, and find rest unto our souls. How many, alas! are choosing the broad way. Oh, rather let us enter in at the strait gate where peace and joy abound. That peace which this world cannot give or take away.

THE END.